A/54/49 (Vol. I)

United Nations

Resolutions
and
Decisions

adopted by the General Assembly during its fifty-fourth session

Volume I
Resolutions
14 September – 23 December 1999

General Assembly
Official Records ● Fifty-fourth Session
Supplement No. 49 (A/54/49)

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United Nations ● New York, 2000

NOTE

The resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly are identified as follows:

Regular sessions

Until the thirtieth regular session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed by a roman numeral in parentheses indicating the session (for example: resolution 3363 (XXX)). When several resolutions were adopted under the same number, each of them was identified by a capital letter placed between the two numerals (for example: resolution 3367 A (XXX), resolutions 3411 A and B (XXX), resolutions 3419 A to D (XXX)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the thirty-first session, as part of the new system adopted for symbols of General Assembly documents, resolutions and decisions have been identified by an arabic numeral, indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution 31/1, decision 31/301). When several resolutions or decisions were adopted under the same number, each of them has been identified by a capital letter placed after the two numerals (for example: resolution 31/16 A, resolutions 31/6 A and B, decisions 31/406 A to E).

Special sessions

Until the seventh special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letter "S" and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 3362 (S-VII)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the eighth special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letter "S" and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution S-8/1, decision S-8/11).

Emergency special sessions

Until the fifth emergency special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letters "ES" and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 2252 (ES-V)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the sixth emergency special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letters "ES" and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution ES-6/1, decision ES-6/11).

In each of the series described above, the numbering follows the order of adoption.

* * *

The present volume contains the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly from 14 September to 23 December 1999, as well as the information requested by the General Assembly in section C, paragraph 3, of its resolution 54/248 of 23 December 1999. Decisions adopted by the Assembly during this period appear in volume II. Resolutions and decisions adopted subsequently during the fifty-fourth session will be published in volume III.

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RESOLUTION 54/1

Adopted at the 1st plenary meeting, on 14 September 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela and Viet Nam

54/1. Admission of the Republic of Kiribati to membership in the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having received the recommendation of the Security Council of 25 June 1999 that the Republic of Kiribati should be admitted to membership in the United Nations,[1]

Having considered the application for membership of the Republic of Kiribati,[2]

Decides to admit the Republic of Kiribati to membership in the United Nations.

RESOLUTION 54/2

Adopted at the 1st plenary meeting, on 14 September 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.2 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela and Viet Nam

54/2. Admission of the Republic of Nauru to membership in the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having received the recommendation of the Security Council of 25 June 1999 that the Republic of Nauru should be admitted to membership in the United Nations,[3]

Having considered the application for membership of the Republic of Nauru,[4]

Decides to admit the Republic of Nauru to membership in the United Nations.

RESOLUTION 54/3

Adopted at the 1st plenary meeting, on 14 September 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.3 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela and Viet Nam

54/3. Admission of the Kingdom of Tonga to membership in the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having received the recommendation of the Security Council of 28 July 1999 that the Kingdom of Tonga should be admitted to membership in the United Nations,[5]

Having considered the application for membership of the Kingdom of Tonga,[6]

Decides to admit the Kingdom of Tonga to membership in the United Nations.

RESOLUTION 54/4

Adopted at the 28th plenary meeting, on 6 October 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.4, recommended by the Economic and Social Council

54/4. Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[7] and the Beijing Declaration[8] and Platform for Action,[9]

Recalling that the Beijing Platform for Action, pursuant to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, supported the process initiated by the Commission on the Status of Women with a view to elaborating a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[10] that could enter into force as soon as possible on a right-to-petition procedure,

Noting that the Beijing Platform for Action also called on all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so as soon as possible so that universal ratification of the Convention can be achieved by the year 2000,

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[1] A/53/1004.

[2] A/53/926–S/1999/477; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1999*, document S/1999/477.

[3] A/53/1005.

[4] A/53/927–S/1999/478; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1999*, document S/1999/478.

[5] A/53/1029.

[6] A/53/1022–S/1999/793; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999*, document S/1999/793.

[7] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[8] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[9] Ibid., annex II.

[10] Resolution 34/180, annex.

1. *Adopts and opens for signature, ratification and accession* the Optional Protocol to the Convention, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution;

2. *Calls upon* all States that have signed, ratified or acceded to the Convention to sign and ratify or to accede to the Protocol as soon as possible;

3. *Stresses* that States parties to the Protocol should undertake to respect the rights and procedures provided by the Protocol and cooperate with the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women at all stages of its proceedings under the Protocol;

4. *Stresses* also that in the fulfilment of its mandate as well as its functions under the Protocol, the Committee should continue to be guided by the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity;

5. *Requests* the Committee to hold meetings to exercise its functions under the Protocol after its entry into force, in addition to its meetings held under article 20 of the Convention; the duration of such meetings shall be determined and, if necessary, reviewed by a meeting of the States parties to the Protocol, subject to the approval of the General Assembly;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the staff and facilities necessary for the effective performance of the functions of the Committee under the Protocol after its entry into force;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include information on the status of the Protocol in her or his regular reports submitted to the General Assembly on the status of the Convention.

ANNEX

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The States Parties to the present Protocol,

Noting that the Charter of the United Nations reaffirms faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women,

Also noting that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[11] proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind, including distinction based on sex,

Recalling that the International Covenants on Human Rights[12] and other international human rights instruments prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex,

Also recalling the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[10] ("the Convention"), in which the States Parties thereto condemn discrimination against women in all its forms and agree to pursue by all appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating discrimination against women,

Reaffirming their determination to ensure the full and equal enjoyment by women of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and to take effective action to prevent violations of these rights and freedoms,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

A State Party to the present Protocol ("State Party") recognizes the competence of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women ("the Committee") to receive and consider communications submitted in accordance with article 2.

Article 2

Communications may be submitted by or on behalf of individuals or groups of individuals, under the jurisdiction of a State Party, claiming to be victims of a violation of any of the rights set forth in the Convention by that State Party. Where a communication is submitted on behalf of individuals or groups of individuals, this shall be with their consent unless the author can justify acting on their behalf without such consent.

Article 3

Communications shall be in writing and shall not be anonymous. No communication shall be received by the Committee if it concerns a State Party to the Convention that is not a party to the present Protocol.

Article 4

1. The Committee shall not consider a communication unless it has ascertained that all available domestic remedies have been exhausted unless the application of such remedies is unreasonably prolonged or unlikely to bring effective relief.

2. The Committee shall declare a communication inadmissible where:

(*a*) The same matter has already been examined by the Committee or has been or is being examined under another procedure of international investigation or settlement;

(*b*) It is incompatible with the provisions of the Convention;

(*c*) It is manifestly ill-founded or not sufficiently substantiated;

(*d*) It is an abuse of the right to submit a communication;

(*e*) The facts that are the subject of the communication occurred prior to the entry into force of the present Protocol for the State Party concerned unless those facts continued after that date.

Article 5

1. At any time after the receipt of a communication and before a determination on the merits has been reached, the Committee may transmit to the State Party concerned for its urgent consideration a request that the State Party take such interim measures as may be necessary to avoid possible irreparable damage to the victim or victims of the alleged violation.

2. Where the Committee exercises its discretion under paragraph 1 of the present article, this does not imply a determination on admissibility or on the merits of the communication.

Article 6

1. Unless the Committee considers a communication inadmissible without reference to the State Party concerned, and provided that the individual or individuals consent to the disclosure of their identity to that State Party, the Committee

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[11] Resolution 217 A (III).

[12] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

shall bring any communication submitted to it under the present Protocol confidentially to the attention of the State Party concerned.

2. Within six months, the receiving State Party shall submit to the Committee written explanations or statements clarifying the matter and the remedy, if any, that may have been provided by that State Party.

Article 7

1. The Committee shall consider communications received under the present Protocol in the light of all information made available to it by or on behalf of individuals or groups of individuals and by the State Party concerned, provided that this information is transmitted to the parties concerned.

2. The Committee shall hold closed meetings when examining communications under the present Protocol.

3. After examining a communication, the Committee shall transmit its views on the communication, together with its recommendations, if any, to the parties concerned.

4. The State Party shall give due consideration to the views of the Committee, together with its recommendations, if any, and shall submit to the Committee, within six months, a written response, including information on any action taken in the light of the views and recommendations of the Committee.

5. The Committee may invite the State Party to submit further information about any measures the State Party has taken in response to its views or recommendations, if any, including as deemed appropriate by the Committee, in the State Party's subsequent reports under article 18 of the Convention.

Article 8

1. If the Committee receives reliable information indicating grave or systematic violations by a State Party of rights set forth in the Convention, the Committee shall invite that State Party to cooperate in the examination of the information and to this end to submit observations with regard to the information concerned.

2. Taking into account any observations that may have been submitted by the State Party concerned as well as any other reliable information available to it, the Committee may designate one or more of its members to conduct an inquiry and to report urgently to the Committee. Where warranted and with the consent of the State Party, the inquiry may include a visit to its territory.

3. After examining the findings of such an inquiry, the Committee shall transmit these findings to the State Party concerned together with any comments and recommendations.

4. The State Party concerned shall, within six months of receiving the findings, comments and recommendations transmitted by the Committee, submit its observations to the Committee.

5. Such an inquiry shall be conducted confidentially and the cooperation of the State Party shall be sought at all stages of the proceedings.

Article 9

1. The Committee may invite the State Party concerned to include in its report under article 18 of the Convention details of any measures taken in response to an inquiry conducted under article 8 of the present Protocol.

2. The Committee may, if necessary, after the end of the period of six months referred to in article 8.4, invite the State Party concerned to inform it of the measures taken in response to such an inquiry.

Article 10

1. Each State Party may, at the time of signature or ratification of the present Protocol or accession thereto, declare that it does not recognize the competence of the Committee provided for in articles 8 and 9.

2. Any State Party having made a declaration in accordance with paragraph 1 of the present article may, at any time, withdraw this declaration by notification to the Secretary-General.

Article 11

A State Party shall take all appropriate steps to ensure that individuals under its jurisdiction are not subjected to ill treatment or intimidation as a consequence of communicating with the Committee pursuant to the present Protocol.

Article 12

The Committee shall include in its annual report under article 21 of the Convention a summary of its activities under the present Protocol.

Article 13

Each State Party undertakes to make widely known and to give publicity to the Convention and the present Protocol and to facilitate access to information about the views and recommendations of the Committee, in particular, on matters involving that State Party.

Article 14

The Committee shall develop its own rules of procedure to be followed when exercising the functions conferred on it by the present Protocol.

Article 15

1. The present Protocol shall be open for signature by any State that has signed, ratified or acceded to the Convention.

2. The present Protocol shall be subject to ratification by any State that has ratified or acceded to the Convention. Instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

3. The present Protocol shall be open to accession by any State that has ratified or acceded to the Convention.

4. Accession shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument of accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Article 16

1. The present Protocol shall enter into force three months after the date of the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the tenth instrument of ratification or accession.

2. For each State ratifying the present Protocol or acceding to it after its entry into force, the present Protocol shall enter into force three months after the date of the deposit of its own instrument of ratification or accession.

Article 17

No reservations to the present Protocol shall be permitted.

Article 18

1. Any State Party may propose an amendment to the present Protocol and file it with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Secretary-General shall thereupon communicate any proposed amendments to the States Parties with a request that they notify her or him whether they favour a conference of States Parties for the purpose of considering and voting on the proposal. In the event that at least one third of the States Parties favour such a conference, the Secretary-General shall convene the conference under the auspices of the United Nations. Any amendment adopted by a majority of the States Parties present and voting at the conference shall be submitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations for approval.

2. Amendments shall come into force when they have been approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations and accepted by a two-thirds majority of the States Parties to the present Protocol in accordance with their respective constitutional processes.

3. When amendments come into force, they shall be binding on those States Parties that have accepted them, other States Parties still being bound by the provisions of the present Protocol and any earlier amendments that they have accepted.

Article 19

1. Any State Party may denounce the present Protocol at any time by written notification addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Denunciation shall take effect six months after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General.

2. Denunciation shall be without prejudice to the continued application of the provisions of the present Protocol to any communication submitted under article 2 or any inquiry initiated under article 8 before the effective date of denunciation.

Article 20

The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all States of:

(*a*) Signatures, ratifications and accessions under the present Protocol;

(*b*) The date of entry into force of the present Protocol and of any amendment under article 18;

(*c*) Any denunciation under article 19.

Article 21

1. The present Protocol, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the United Nations.

2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit certified copies of the present Protocol to all States referred to in article 25 of the Convention.

RESOLUTION 54/5

Adopted at the 31st plenary meeting, on 8 October 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.8 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America and Uruguay

54/5. Observer status for the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Considering the importance of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, an intergovernmental organization dedicated to enhancing mutual respect and confidence, dialogue and cooperation, and economic collaboration among its member States,

Considering also the need, frequently noted by the United Nations, to promote and support every effort towards the development of bilateral and multilateral cooperation on the basis of international law,

Taking into account that the Charter of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization stresses regional cooperation as part of the process of integration in Europe, based on human rights and fundamental freedoms, promoting social justice and stability,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization,

1. *Decides* to invite the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to participate in the sessions and work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTIONS 54/6 A and B

A

Adopted at the 38th plenary meeting, on 25 October 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the first report of the Credentials Committee (A/54/475)

B

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 9 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the second report of the Credentials Committee (A/54/475/Add.1)

54/6. Credentials of representatives to the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly

A

The General Assembly,

Having considered the first report of the Credentials Committee and the recommendation contained therein,[13]

Approves the first report of the Credentials Committee.

B

The General Assembly,

Having considered the second report of the Credentials Committee and the recommendation contained therein,[14]

Approves the second report of the Credentials Committee.

RESOLUTION 54/7

Adopted at the 38th plenary meeting, on 25 October 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.12, sponsored by Burkina Faso

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[13] A/54/475.

[14] A/54/475/Add.1.

54/7. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 37/4 of 22 October 1982, 38/4 of 28 October 1983, 39/7 of 8 November 1984, 40/4 of 25 October 1985, 41/3 of 16 October 1986, 42/4 of 15 October 1987, 43/2 of 17 October 1988, 44/8 of 18 October 1989, 45/9 of 25 October 1990, 46/13 of 28 October 1991, 47/18 of 23 November 1992, 48/24 of 24 November 1993, 49/15 of 15 November 1994, 50/17 of 20 November 1995, 51/18 of 14 November 1996, 52/4 of 22 October 1997 and 53/16 of 29 October 1998,

Recalling also its resolution 3369 (XXX) of 10 October 1975, by which it decided to invite the Organization of the Islamic Conference to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly and of its subsidiary organs in the capacity of observer,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference,[15]

Taking into account the desire of both organizations to continue to cooperate closely in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural and technical fields and in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, decolonization, fundamental human rights and economic and technical development,

Recalling the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage the activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Noting the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations, its funds and programmes and specialized agencies and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, its subsidiary organs and its specialized and affiliated institutions,

Noting also the encouraging progress made in the ten priority areas of cooperation between the two organizations, as well as in the identification of other areas of cooperation between them,

Convinced that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its organs and institutions contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Noting with appreciation the determination of both organizations to strengthen further the existing cooperation by developing specific proposals in the designated priority areas of cooperation, as well as in the political field,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[15]

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the active participation of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the work of the United Nations towards the realization of the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Requests* the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to continue to cooperate in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, decolonization, fundamental human rights, social and economic development and technical cooperation;

4. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to continue to strengthen cooperation between the two organizations in areas of common concern and to review the ways and means for enhancing the actual mechanisms of such cooperation;

5. *Welcomes with appreciation* the continuing cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the field of peacemaking and preventive diplomacy, and takes note of the close cooperation between the two organizations in continuing the search for a peaceful and lasting solution to the conflict in Afghanistan;

6. *Welcomes* the efforts of the secretariats of the two organizations to strengthen information exchange, coordination and cooperation between them in areas of mutual interest in the political field and their ongoing consultations with a view to developing the modalities of such cooperation;

7. *Welcomes also* the periodic high-level meetings between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, as well as between senior secretariat officials of the two organizations, and encourages their participation in important meetings of the two organizations;

8. *Recommends* that, in accordance with its resolution 50/17, in order to enhance cooperation and for the purpose of review and appraisal of progress, a general meeting of representatives of the secretariats of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference should be held in 2000;

9. *Also recommends* that, in accordance with resolution 50/17, coordination meetings of focal points of the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions should be held concurrently with the general meeting in 2000;

10. *Encourages* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to expand their cooperation with the subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, particularly by negotiating cooperation agreements, and invites them to multiply the contacts and meetings of the focal points for cooperation in priority areas of interest to the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

11. *Urges* the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system, especially the lead agencies, to provide increased technical and other forms of assistance to the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions in order to enhance cooperation;

12. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continued efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions to serve the mutual interests of the two organizations in the political, economic, social and cultural fields;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the state of cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the

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[15] A/54/308.

United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference”.

RESOLUTION 54/8

Adopted at the 38th plenary meeting, on 25 October 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.13 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Haiti, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela

54/8. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/3 of 22 October 1997 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System,[16]

Bearing in mind the Agreement between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System,[17] in which the parties agree to strengthen and expand their cooperation in matters that are of common concern in the field of their respective competence pursuant to their constitutional instruments,

Considering that the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean has intensified its ties of cooperation with the Latin American Economic System,

Bearing in mind that the Permanent Secretariat of the Latin American Economic System has carried out programmes with the support of the United Nations Development Programme in areas that are considered of priority for the economic and social development of the region,

Considering that the Latin American Economic System is developing joint activities with the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, such as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Intellectual Property Organization,

Welcoming the continued monitoring of changes in the treatment of topics relating to the United Nations system, in close contact with the delegations of the Member States participating in such deliberations,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[16]

2. *Urges* the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to continue deepening its coordination and mutual support activities with the Latin American Economic System;

3. *Urges* the United Nations Development Programme, within its new overall framework and high-priority development objectives in support of sustainable human development, to renew its financial and technical cooperation with the programmes that the Permanent Secretariat of the Latin American Economic System is carrying out in areas of mutual interest and concern, aimed at complementing the technical assistance activities conducted by the Latin American Economic System;

4. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to continue and intensify their support for, and cooperation in the activities of, the Latin American Economic System;

5. *Requests* both the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Permanent Secretary of the Latin American Economic System to assess, at the appropriate time, the implementation of the Agreement between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/9

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 26 October 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.14 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine

54/9. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,[18]

Recalling article III of the Charter of the League of Arab States, which confers upon the Council of the League the task of deciding upon the means by which the League is to cooperate with the international bodies to be created in the future in order to guarantee security and peace and regulate economic and social relations,

Noting the desire of both organizations to consolidate, develop and enhance further the ties existing between them in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural, technical and administrative fields,

Taking into account the report of the Secretary-General entitled “An Agenda for Peace”,[19] in particular section VII, concerning cooperation with regional arrangements and organizations, and the “Supplement to An Agenda for Peace”,[20]

Convinced of the need for more efficient and coordinated utilization of available economic and financial resources to promote common objectives of the two organizations,

Acknowledging the need for closer cooperation between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in realizing the goals and objectives of the two organizations,

Welcoming the third meeting on cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations, held on 28 and 29 July 1998, and the follow-up meeting held on 10 and 11 December 1998,

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[16] A/53/420.

[17] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1651, No. 1061.

[18] A/54/180.

[19] A/47/277–S/24111; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-seventh Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1992*, document S/24111.

[20] A/50/60–S/1995/1; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1995*, document S/1995/1.

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[18]

2. *Commends* the continued efforts of the League of Arab States to promote multilateral cooperation among Arab States, and requests the United Nations system to continue to lend its support;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the follow-up action taken by him to implement the proposals adopted at the meetings between the representatives of the secretariats of the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, including the latest general meeting, held in Vienna in 1999;

4. *Requests* the Secretariat of the United Nations and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States, within their respective fields of competence, to intensify further their cooperation with a view to the realization of the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the strengthening of international peace and security, economic and social development, disarmament, decolonization, self-determination and the eradication of all forms of racism and racial discrimination;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and other organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in order to enhance their capacity to serve the mutual interests and objectives of the two organizations in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural and administrative fields;

6. *Calls upon* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system:

(*a*) To continue to cooperate with the Secretary-General and among themselves, as well as with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, in the follow-up of multilateral proposals aimed at strengthening and expanding cooperation in all fields between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations;

(*b*) To maintain and increase contacts and improve the mechanism of consultation with the counterpart programmes, organizations and agencies concerned regarding projects and programmes, in order to facilitate their implementation;

(*c*) To associate whenever possible with organizations and institutions of the League of Arab States in the execution and implementation of development projects in the Arab region;

(*d*) To inform the Secretary-General, not later than 14 July 2000, of the progress of their cooperation with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, in particular the follow-up action taken on the multilateral and bilateral proposals adopted at the previous meetings between the two organizations;

7. *Also calls upon* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to intensify cooperation with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in the priority sectors of energy, rural development, desertification and green belts, training and vocational training, technology, environment and information and documentation;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in cooperation with the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, to encourage periodic consultation between representatives of the Secretariat of the United Nations and of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States to review and strengthen coordination mechanisms with a view to accelerating implementation of, and follow-up action on, multilateral projects, proposals and recommendations adopted at the meetings between the two organizations;

9. *Recommends* that the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system should utilize, insofar as possible, Arab institutions and technical expertise in projects undertaken in the Arab region;

10. *Reaffirms* that, in order to enhance cooperation and for the purpose of review and appraisal of progress, a general meeting between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States should take place once every two years, and inter-agency sectoral meetings should also be organized once every two years on areas of priority and wide importance in the development of the Arab States, on the basis of agreement between the counterpart programmes of the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations;

11. *Emphasizes* the importance of holding the next general meeting on cooperation between the representatives of the secretariats of organizations of the United Nations system and of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations during 2001;

12. *Recommends* that a sectoral meeting entitled "Youth and Employment" should be held between the United Nations and the League of Arab States and their specialized organizations at the headquarters of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia in Beirut from 22 to 26 May 2000;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States".

RESOLUTION 54/10

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 26 October 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.15 and Add.1, sponsored by: Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal and Sao Tome and Principe

54/10. Observer status for the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that the purposes of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, as enunciated in its constitutive declaration, are consistent with those of the United Nations,

Considering that, accordingly, it is mutually advantageous to provide for cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries,

Taking note of the desire of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries for the establishment of that cooperation,

1. *Decides* to invite the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/11

Adopted at the 40th plenary meeting, on 27 October 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.18 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, China, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Namibia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America

54/11. Thirtieth anniversary of the operations of the United Nations Population Fund

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2211 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, in response to which a trust fund, subsequently named the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, was established in 1967 by the Secretary-General,

Noting that the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, renamed in 1987 as the United Nations Population Fund, began operations in 1969,

Recalling its resolutions 3019 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, 31/170 of 21 December 1976 and 34/104 of 14 December 1979, in which it, *inter alia*, recognized the leading role and effectiveness of the Fund in the United Nations system in the population field and affirmed the Fund as a subsidiary body of the General Assembly,

Reaffirming Economic and Social Council resolutions 1763 (LIV) of 18 May 1973 and 1986/7 of 21 May 1986 stating the aims and purposes of the Fund,

1. *Congratulates* the United Nations Population Fund on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of its operations;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the positive contributions the Fund and its dedicated staff have made during its thirty years in promoting better understanding and awareness of population and development issues, in improving the quality of human life and in extending systematic and sustained assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, at their request, in undertaking appropriate national programmes to address their population and development needs.

RESOLUTION 54/12

Adopted at the 41st plenary meeting, on 27 October 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.9 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen and Zambia

54/12. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/13 of 28 October 1998, in which it looked forward to continued close cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[21] that describes the recent enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union in pursuance of the 1996 cooperation Agreement[22] concluded between the two organizations,

Taking note with appreciation of the resolutions adopted and activities carried out by the Inter-Parliamentary Union during the past year in support of United Nations actions in the fields of peace and security, economic and social development, international law and human rights, democracy, good governance and gender issues,

1. *Welcomes* the support provided to the United Nations by national parliaments through their world organization, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and expresses the wish that the cooperation between the two organizations will be further strengthened and enhanced in the third millennium;

2. *Also welcomes* the information contained in the report of the Secretary-General[21] regarding preparations made with his support by the Inter-Parliamentary Union to hold a conference of presiding officers of national parliaments in conjunction with the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly, designated the Millennium Assembly of the United Nations, in the General Assembly hall from 30 August to 1 September 2000;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to examine the possibilities of inviting the Inter-Parliamentary Union to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session (Millennium Assembly) on the outcome of the conference of presiding officers of national parliaments, and to report thereon before the end of the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the various aspects of cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union".

RESOLUTION 54/21

Adopted at the 50th plenary meeting, on 9 November 1999, by a recorded vote of 155 to 2, with 8 abstentions,[23] on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.11, sponsored by Cuba

54/21. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba

The General Assembly,

Determined to encourage strict compliance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

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[21] A/54/379.

[22] A/51/402, annex.

[23] For details, see annex II.

Reaffirming, among other principles, the sovereign equality of States, non-intervention and non-interference in their internal affairs and freedom of international trade and navigation, which are also enshrined in many international legal instruments,

Recalling the statements of the heads of State or Government at the Ibero-American Summits concerning the need to eliminate the unilateral application of economic and trade measures by one State against another that affect the free flow of international trade,

Concerned about the continued promulgation and application by Member States of laws and regulations, such as that promulgated on 12 March 1996 known as the "Helms-Burton Act", the extraterritorial effects of which affect the sovereignty of other States, the legitimate interests of entities or persons under their jurisdiction and the freedom of trade and navigation,

Taking note of declarations and resolutions of different intergovernmental forums, bodies and Governments that express the rejection by the international community and public opinion of the promulgation and application of regulations of the kind referred to above,

Recalling its resolutions 47/19 of 24 November 1992, 48/16 of 3 November 1993, 49/9 of 26 October 1994, 50/10 of 2 November 1995, 51/17 of 12 November 1996, 52/10 of 5 November 1997 and 53/4 of 4 October 1998,

Concerned that, since the adoption of its resolutions 47/19, 48/16, 49/9, 50/10, 51/17, 52/10 and 53/4, further measures of that nature aimed at strengthening and extending the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba continue to be promulgated and applied, and concerned also about the adverse effects of such measures on the Cuban people and on Cuban nationals living in other countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 53/4;[24]

2. *Reiterates its call* on all States to refrain from promulgating and applying laws and measures of the kind referred to in the preamble to the present resolution in conformity with their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which, *inter alia*, reaffirm the freedom of trade and navigation;

3. *Once again urges* States that have and continue to apply such laws and measures to take the necessary steps to repeal or invalidate them as soon as possible in accordance with their legal regime;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the appropriate organs and agencies of the United Nations system, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution in the light of the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba".

RESOLUTION 54/22

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 10 November 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.20 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Cameroon, Chile, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Egypt, El Salvador, France, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Malta, Morocco, Namibia, Norway, Oman, Panama, Peru, Qatar, Philippines, Portugal, Russian Federation, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sudan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela, Yemen and Palestine

54/22. Bethlehem 2000

The General Assembly,

Recalling the fact that the Palestinian city of Bethlehem is the birthplace of Jesus Christ and one of the most historic and significant sites on earth,

Noting that the world will celebrate in Bethlehem, a city of peace, the onset of the new millennium in a global vision of hope for all peoples,

Stressing the monumental importance of the event for the Palestinian people, for the peoples of the region and for the international community as a whole, as it comprises significant religious, historical and cultural dimensions,

Aware of the Bethlehem 2000 project as a multifaceted undertaking for commemoration of the event, which will begin at Christmas, 1999, and conclude at Easter, 2001,

Aware also of the needed assistance with regard to the above-mentioned project, and expressing appreciation for the steps taken towards increasing the engagement and participation of the international community, including donor countries, and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, as well as the European Commission, religious institutions and others,

Welcoming the convening of the Bethlehem 2000 International Conference in Rome, on 18 and 19 February 1999, and the participation of many high-level individuals and institutions from governmental, religious, intergovernmental, academic, cultural, non-governmental and private sectors in that important Conference,

Expressing the need for immediate change in the situation on the ground in the vicinity of Bethlehem, especially with regard to ensuring freedom of movement,

Stressing the need for ensuring free and unhindered access to the holy places in Bethlehem to the faithful of all religions and the citizens of all nationalities,

Expressing the hope for rapid progress in the Middle East peace process and the achievement of the final settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides by September 2000, as agreed by the parties, so that the millennium may be celebrated most appropriately in an atmosphere of peace and reconciliation,

1. *Welcomes* the impending arrival of this global, historic celebration in Bethlehem of the birth of Jesus Christ and the onset of the third millennium as a symbol of the shared hope for peace among all peoples of the world;

2. *Expresses support* for the Bethlehem 2000 project and commends the efforts undertaken by the Palestinian Authority in this regard;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the assistance given by the international community in support of the Bethlehem 2000 project, and calls for the acceleration of assistance and engagement by the international community as a whole, including private sector participation, to ensure the success of the Bethlehem 2000 project and the fruition of this monumental commemoration;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize the pertinent organizations and agencies of the United

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[24] A/54/259.

Nations system to increase their efforts to ensure the success of the Bethlehem 2000 project;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Bethlehem 2000" so that the General Assembly may have a renewed opportunity to reaffirm its further support for the project until the commemoration comes to a close at Easter, 2001.

RESOLUTION 54/23

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 10 November 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.16 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran(Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Senegal, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe

54/23. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/139 of 17 December 1991, 47/92 of 16 December 1992, 48/100 of 20 December 1993, 50/161 of 22 December 1995, 50/227 of 24 May 1996, 51/202 of 17 December 1996, 52/25 of 26 November 1997 and 53/28 of 19 November 1998,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council decision 1991/230 of 30 May 1991, resolutions 1992/27 of 30 July 1992, 1995/60 of 28 July 1995, 1996/7 of 22 July 1996, 1996/36 of 26 July 1996, 1997/56 of 23 July 1997, 1998/44 and 1998/46 of 31 July 1998 and 1999/55 of 30 July 1999 and agreed conclusions 1995/1 of 28 July 1995, 1996/1 of 26 July 1996 and 1997/1 of 25 July 1997,

1. *Reaffirms* the commitments adopted by heads of State and Government at the World Summit for Social Development, contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[25] and the Programme of Action,[26] and their pledge to give the highest priority to national, regional and international policies and actions for the promotion of social progress, social justice, the betterment of the human condition and social integration, based on full participation by all;

2. *Emphasizes* the urgency of placing the goals of social development as contained in the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action at the centre of economic policy-making, including policies influencing domestic and global market forces and the global economy;

3. *Also emphasizes* the need for revitalized economic and social development everywhere within a framework that places people at the centre of development and aims to meet human needs rapidly and more effectively by, *inter alia*, enhancing positive interaction between economic and social policies, and stresses the need for strong, sustained political will at the national, regional and international levels to invest in people and their well-being in order to achieve the objectives of social development;

Special session of the General Assembly and its preparatory process

4. *Recalls* its resolution 50/161, in which it decided to hold a special session in 2000 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit and to consider further actions and initiatives;

5. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to participate in the special session at the highest political level possible and in the meantime to continue to extend support to the preparatory process;

6. *Also reiterates its invitation* to the regional commissions, in accordance with their mandates and in cooperation with the regional intergovernmental organizations and banks, to continue to be involved in and to support the implementation of the objectives of the Summit, and welcomes in this context the holding of regional meetings for the preparation of the special session;

7. *Reiterates once again* that the objectives of the special session will be to reaffirm the Declaration and the Programme of Action agreed at the Summit and not to renegotiate them, to identify progress made and constraints therein, as well as lessons learned, in the implementation of the Declaration and the Programme of Action at the national, regional and international levels and to recommend concrete actions and initiatives to further efforts towards full and effective implementation of the Declaration and the Programme of Action;

8. *Reaffirms* the need for effective partnership and cooperation between Governments, international organizations, the relevant actors of civil society, including the private sector, social partners and non-governmental organizations, in the implementation of and follow-up to the Declaration and the Programme of Action and in the preparatory process of the special session;

9. *Takes note* of the report on the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session,[27] established by the General Assembly in its resolution 52/25;

10. *Reiterates its invitation* to all relevant organs, funds and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, to continue to contribute to and be actively involved in the preparatory process and the special session, and in this regard takes note in particular of the decision of the Preparatory Committee on the role of the United Nations system,[28] in which it invited all relevant organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system and other concerned organizations, within their mandates, to elaborate and submit review reports and proposals for further action and initiatives, and of its decision on further preparations for the special session;[29]

11. *Takes note* of the decision adopted by the Preparatory Committee at its resumed first session on accreditation and modalities for participation of non-

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[25] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[26] Ibid., annex II.

[27] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 45* and corrigendum and addendum (A/54/45 and Corr.1 and Add.1).

[28] Ibid., chap. VI, sect. B, para. 72, decision 1.

[29] Ibid., decision 2.

governmental organizations at the special session,[30] and recalls General Assembly decision 54/407 of 8 October 1999 on arrangements regarding participation of non-governmental organizations in the special session;

12. *Recalls* the provisional agenda of the second session of the Preparatory Committee as adopted by the General Assembly in its decision 54/406 of 8 October 1999;

13. *Also recalls* the arrangements for the special session as recommended by the Preparatory Committee and adopted by the General Assembly in its decision 54/404 of 8 October 1999;

14. *Further recalls* General Assembly decision 54/405 of 8 October 1999, by which the special session will be entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world";

15. *Recalls* the recommendation by the Preparatory Committee at its organizational session that the Commission for Social Development be entrusted with the responsibility of acting as the forum for national reporting, benefiting from the sharing of experiences gained and thus identifying areas where further initiatives are needed for consideration by the Preparatory Committee;

16. *Takes note* of resolution 37/1 of the Commission for Social Development, entitled "Social services for all", and the agreed conclusions contained therein, and its resolution 37/3 entitled "Initiation of the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development";[31]

17. *Recalls* that in accordance with the Commission's multi-year programme of work, as approved by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1996/7, the priority theme for its thirty-eighth session in February 2000 will be "Contribution of the Commission to the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit", and in this connection also recalls the invitation by the Preparatory Committee at its first session to the Commission to undertake the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit, and to transmit the results of its deliberations to the Preparatory Committee at its second session;

18. *Takes note* of the ministerial communiqué adopted by the Economic and Social Council at the high-level segment of its substantive session of 1999, entitled "The role of employment and work in poverty eradication: the empowerment and advancement of women";

19. *Reaffirms* in this context the decision of the Preparatory Committee at its organizational session that its substantive activities should take into account the results of other major United Nations conferences and contributions by other relevant organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system;

20. *Recalls* its decision in its resolution 53/28 to hold the special session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 26 to 30 June 2000;

21. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Switzerland for initiating and making arrangements for the special session;

22. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development;[32]

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the special session;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the special session of the General Assembly in this regard".

RESOLUTION 54/24

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 10 November 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.6/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam

54/24. Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: a society for all ages

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Assembly on Ageing, held in Vienna in 1982, which adopted the International Plan of Action on Ageing,[33]

Recalling also the International Conference on Ageing, which it convened on 15 and 16 October 1992 on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the International Plan of Action on Ageing, and which, *inter alia*, recommended the observance of the International Year of Older Persons in 1999,

Recalling further its resolution 53/109 of 9 December 1998 and previous resolutions on ageing and the International Year of Older Persons,

Reaffirming the importance of the United Nations Principles for Older Persons, as adopted by its resolution 46/91 of 16 December 1991,

Taking note of the 1998 revision of the official United Nations population estimates and projections, which show that, with the continuation of the decline in fertility and the increase in life expectancy, the population of the world will age much faster in the next half-century than previously,

Also taking note that these population estimates and projections provide, for the first time, detailed information on the oldest of the old, which shows that the proportion of those who are eighty years of age or older will increase in all countries of the world, and illustrates two phenomena: the older the age group, the faster it grows, and the higher the proportion of older women,

Reaffirming the need to integrate a gender perspective in policies on ageing,

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[30] Ibid., decision 3.

[31] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 6* (E/1999/26), chap. I, sect. D, para. 4.

[32] A/54/220.

[33] See *Report of the World Assembly on Ageing, Vienna, 26 July–6 August 1982* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.16), chap. VI, sect. A.

Conscious that the ageing of the world's population represents a far-reaching challenge to Governments as well as other relevant sectors of society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to ensure that the needs of older persons, including their human resource potential to society, are adequately recognized and addressed,

Aware that a revolutionary change in the demographic structure of societies, as well as the rapidity of ageing of populations in developing countries, require a fundamental change in the way in which societies cope with those challenges,

Conscious that discrimination and stereotyping of older persons constitute and lead to violations of their human rights,

Taking note of General Comment No. 6 (1995) of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on the economic, social and cultural rights of older persons,[34]

Acknowledging the initiatives undertaken and the momentum generated, at all levels, towards addressing the challenge of ageing and the concerns and contributions of ageing and older persons by the celebration of the International Year of Older Persons,

Convinced of the necessity to ensure an action-oriented follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons with a view to sustaining that momentum,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[35] and noting with satisfaction the focus in the annex to the report on the elaboration of a policy framework for a long-term perspective strategy on ageing, including a research agenda for the twenty-first century, in the context of a society for all ages,

Recalling resolution 37/2 adopted by the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-seventh session,[36] in which the Commission requested the Secretary-General to solicit the views of States, non-governmental organizations and the private sector on updating the International Plan of Action on Ageing and on the desirability and feasibility of convening a review of the outcome of the World Assembly on Ageing in 2002, including the interrelationship of ageing and development,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the successful celebration of the International Year of Older Persons, with the theme "A society for all ages", and resolves to maintain the momentum created by the Year;

2. *Emphasizes* the need to address the developmental aspects of ageing with particular attention to the situation of developing countries;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the collection of data and population statistics disaggregated by sex and by age on all aspects of population ageing for policy formulation by all countries, and encourages the relevant entities of the United Nations to support national efforts, especially of developing countries, in capacity-building, and, in this context, takes note of the establishment by the United Nations of an Internet - accessible database on ageing, and invites States to submit, whenever possible, information for inclusion in the database;

4. *Encourages* the press and the media to play a central role in the creation of awareness of population ageing and related issues, in the elimination of stereotypes and discrimination of older persons in the media and in the promotion of solidarity among generations;

5. *Urges* the development of policies and programmes at the national, regional and international levels which respond to the rights, needs and abilities of older women;

6. *Also urges* Governments to take appropriate action to combat discrimination based on age;

7. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council and all its appropriate subsidiary bodies, in particular the Commission for Social Development, as well as the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and the legislative and policy-making bodies of the concerned specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations, to give careful consideration to the issue of ageing;

8. *Encourages* States Parties to include in their reports to the Committee on Human Rights, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights information on older persons;

9. *Welcomes* activities in the field of ageing by United Nations funds and programmes, in particular the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund, as well as specialized agencies, including the World Health Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Labour Organization and the Bretton Woods institutions, and encourages them to continue to support activities in the field of ageing;

10. *Stresses* the importance of national follow-up activities to the International Year of Older Persons through involving older persons and consulting them on their needs;

11. *Encourages* regional initiatives to follow up on the International Year of Older Persons and to provide inputs into the process of revision of the International Plan of Action on Ageing, given the fact that different regions and countries are at different stages of population ageing and need to identify specific policy responses in order to achieve the goal of "A society for all ages";

12. *Takes note with appreciation* of the offer by the Government of Germany to host a regional ministerial conference on ageing under the aegis of the Economic Commission for Europe in 2002;

13. *Notes* that there is a need for guidelines and recommendations reflecting the current situation of societies and older persons in order to design and support adequate age-related policies;

14. *Decides* to entrust the Commission for Social Development with the revision of the International Plan of Action on Ageing and the elaboration of a long-term strategy on ageing, based on new developments since 1982 and on the experience of the International Year of Older Persons in 1999, with a view to the adoption of a revised plan of action and of a long-term strategy on ageing in 2002;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consult Governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in the preparation of a draft revised plan of action, including proposals on a review mechanism, to be submitted to the Commission for Social Development in 2001;

16. *Endorses* the request of the Commission for Social Development in its resolution 37/2, to the Secretariat, to incorporate, as feasible, the experiences, policies and best

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[34] E/C.12/1995/16/Rev.1.

[35] A/54/268.

[36] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 6* (E/1999/26), chap. I, sect. D, para. 4.

practices reported by States into a long-term strategy on ageing, encompassing periodic reviews, for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session in 2001;

17. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development, at its thirty-eighth session, to adopt a recommendation on the desirability and feasibility of convening a second World Assembly on Ageing in 2002, devoted to reviewing the outcome of the First World Assembly as well as to considering a long-term strategy on ageing in the context of a society for all ages, and to report on this issue to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session through the Economic and Social Council;

18. *Takes note with appreciation* of the offer by the Government of Spain to host a second World Assembly on Ageing in 2002;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution under an item entitled "Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons".

RESOLUTION 54/25

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 15 November 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.25, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, France, Gabon, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Morocco, Niger, Norway, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo and Viet Nam

54/25. Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 33/18 of 10 November 1978, 50/3 of 16 October 1995 and 52/2 of 17 October 1997, as well as its decision 53/453 of 18 December 1998,

Recalling also the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations which encourage the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations through regional cooperation,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie,[37]

Noting the desire of the two organizations to consolidate, develop and tighten the ties that exist between them in the political, economic, social and cultural fields,

Noting with satisfaction the substantial progress achieved in cooperation between the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies and programmes and the International Organization of la Francophonie,

Convinced that strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie serves the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Considering that the International Organization of la Francophonie brings together a considerable number of States Members of the United Nations, among which it promotes multilateral cooperation in areas of interest to the United Nations,

Appreciating the will shown by the heads of State and Government of countries that use French as a common language at their eighth summit session, held in Moncton, Canada, from 3 to 5 September 1999, to play an active part in resolving the main political and economic problems of the contemporary world and to consolidate the partnership with the United Nations to that end,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie;[37]

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the positive evolution and development of cooperation between the two organizations;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the International Organization of la Francophonie for their sustained efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie, thereby serving the mutual interests of the two organizations in the political, economic, social and cultural fields;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* that the International Organization of la Francophonie is participating more frequently in the work of the United Nations, to which it makes a valuable contribution;

5. *Welcomes* the involvement of the countries that use French as a common language, particularly through the International Organization of la Francophonie, in United Nations activities, including the preparation for, conduct of and follow-up to world conferences organized under United Nations auspices;

6. *Commends* the International Organization of la Francophonie for its efforts in relation to conflict prevention, management and resolution, promotion of human rights and strengthening of democracy and the rule of law, as well as its action in favour of the development of multilateral cooperation among countries with French as a common language, particularly in the areas of economic, social and cultural development, and the promotion of new information technologies, and requests United Nations bodies to give it their support;

7. *Commends also* the high-level meetings held periodically between the secretariats of the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie, and advocates the participation of those secretariats in major meetings of the two organizations;

8. *Notes with satisfaction* the outcome of the meeting held in New York on 29 and 30 April 1999 between senior officials of the two organizations to exchange information and coordinate their action in certain of the organizations' member countries affected by crises;

9. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for including the International Organization of la Francophonie in the periodic meetings he holds with the heads of regional organizations, and invites him to continue to do so, taking into account the role played by the International Organization of la Francophonie in conflict prevention and support for democracy and the rule of law;

10. *Recommends* to the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie that they should continue and intensify their consultations with a view to ensuring greater coordination in the areas of conflict prevention, peace-building, support for the rule of law and democracy and promotion of human rights;

11. *Notes with satisfaction* the strengthening of collaboration between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie in the area of electoral monitoring and assistance, and advocates the strengthening of cooperation between the two organizations in that area;

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[37] A/54/397.

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General, acting in cooperation with the Secretary-General of the International Organization of la Francophonie, to encourage the holding of periodic meetings between representatives of the United Nations Secretariat and representatives of the secretariat of the International Organization of la Francophonie in order to promote the exchange of information, coordination of activities and identification of new areas of cooperation;

13. *Invites* the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the International Organization of la Francophonie, to continue to promote cooperation between the two organizations;

14. *Invites* the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations, as well as the regional commissions, including the Economic Commission for Africa, to collaborate to this end with the International Organization of la Francophonie by identifying new synergies in favour of development, in particular in the areas of poverty elimination, energy, sustainable development, education, training and the development of new information technologies;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie".

RESOLUTION 54/26

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 15 November 1999, by a recorded vote of 122 to 1, with 6 abstentions,[38] on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.21/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and orally amended by France

54/26. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency

The General Assembly,

Having received the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency for the year 1998,[39]

Noting the statement of the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency,[40] in which he provided additional information on the main developments in the activities of the Agency during 1999,

Recognizing the importance of the work of the Agency in promoting the further application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes as envisaged in the statute of the Agency and in accordance with the inalienable right of States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[41] and other relevant internationally legally binding agreements that have concluded relevant safeguards agreements with the Agency to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in conformity with articles I and II and other relevant articles of the Treaty, and with the objectives and purposes thereof,

Conscious of the importance of the work of the Agency in the implementation of the safeguards provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and other international treaties, conventions and agreements designed to achieve similar objectives, as well as in ensuring, as far as it is able, that the assistance provided by the Agency or at its request or under its supervision or control is not used in such a way as to further any military purpose, as stated in article II of its statute,

Reaffirming that the Agency is the competent authority responsible for verifying and assuring, in accordance with the statute and the safeguards system of the Agency, compliance with its safeguards agreements with States parties undertaken in fulfilment of their obligations under article III, paragraph 1, of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, with a view to preventing diversion of nuclear energy from peaceful uses to nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, and also reaffirming that nothing should be done to undermine the authority of the Agency in this regard and that States parties that have concerns regarding non-compliance with the safeguards agreement of the Treaty by the States parties should direct such concerns, along with supporting evidence and information, to the Agency to consider, investigate, draw conclusions and decide on necessary actions in accordance with its mandate,

Stressing the need for the highest standards of safety in the design and operation of nuclear installations and in peaceful nuclear activities so as to minimize risks to life, health and the environment, and recognizing that a good safety record relies on good technology, good regulatory practices and well-qualified and trained staff, as well as international cooperation,

Considering that an expansion of technical cooperation activities relating to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy will contribute to the well-being of the peoples of the world, recognizing the special needs of the developing countries for technical assistance from the Agency and the importance of funding in order to benefit effectively from the transfer and application of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes as well as from the contribution of nuclear energy to their economic development, and desiring that the resources of the Agency for technical cooperation activities be assured, predictable and sufficient to meet the objectives mandated in article II of its statute,

Recognizing the importance of the work of the Agency on nuclear energy, applications of nuclear methods and techniques, nuclear safety, radiological protection and radioactive waste management, including its work directed towards assisting developing countries in all these fields,

Taking note of the report of the Director General to the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency[42] on the implementation of Security Council resolutions relating to Iraq, of his reports to the Security

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[38] For details, see annex II.

[39] International Atomic Energy Agency, *The Annual Report for 1998* (Austria, July 1999) (GC(43)/4); transmitted to the members of the General Assembly by a note by the Secretary-General (A/54/215).

[40] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 46th meeting (A/54/PV.46).

[41] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[42] GC(43)/16.

Council of 15 January,[43] 9 April,[44] 27 July,[45] 7 October[46] and 14 December 1998,[47] of 7 April 1999,[48] and of resolution GC(43)/RES/22 of 1 October 1999 of the General Conference[49] and of his letter to the President of the Security Council of 6 October 1999,[50]

Welcoming the convening of the second Scientific Forum, on "Sustainable development: a role for nuclear power?", during the forty-third regular session of the General Conference of the Agency,

Taking note of resolutions GOV/2711 of 21 March 1994 and GOV/2742 of 10 June 1994 of the Board of Governors and GC(43)/RES/3 of 1 October 1999 of the General Conference of the Agency in connection with the implementation of the Agreement between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the application of safeguards in connection with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[51] the statements by the President of the Security Council of 31 March,[52] 30 May[53] and 4 November 1994[54] and the authorization of the Board of Governors, on 11 November 1994, to the Director General, to carry out all the tasks requested of the Agency in the statement by the President of the Security Council of 4 November 1994,

Taking note also of resolutions GC(43)/RES/8 on the amendment of article XIV.A of the statute of the Agency, GC(43)/RES/10 on the safety of radiation sources and the security of radioactive materials, GC(43)/RES/11 on the safety of transport of radioactive materials, GC(43)/RES/12 on the radiological protection of patients, GC(43)/RES/13 on measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation and waste safety, GC(43)/RES/14 on the strengthening of the Agency's technical cooperation activities, GC(43)/RES/15 on the plan for producing potable water economically, GC(43)/RES/16 on the extensive use of isotope hydrology for water resources management, GC(43)/RES/17 on strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of the safeguards system and application of the Model Protocol, GC(43)/RES/18 on measures against illicit trafficking in nuclear materials and other radioactive sources and GC(43)/RES/23 on the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East, adopted on 1 October 1999 by the General Conference of the Agency at its forty-third regular session,

Taking note further of resolution GC(43)/RES/20 of 1 October 1999 on the staffing of the Agency's secretariat, in which the General Conference called on developing and under-represented member States to encourage well-qualified candidates to apply for vacant posts in the Agency, and considering the related resolution GC(43)/RES/21 of 1 October 1999 on women in the secretariat, in which the General Conference called on the Director General to integrate further the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women[55] into the Agency's relevant policies and programmes and noted the intention of the Agency's secretariat to participate in the forthcoming review at the Fifth World Conference on Women, to be held in 2000,

Recalling resolution GC(43)/RES/19 on the amendment to article VI of the statute and the statement by the President of the forty-third regular session of the General Conference of the Agency with respect to article VI, adopted on 1 October 1999 by the General Conference,

Noting the statement by the President of the forty-third regular session of the General Conference of the Agency, which was endorsed by the General Conference at its tenth plenary meeting and issued under the item concerning Israeli nuclear capabilities and threat, that:

> "The General Conference recalls the statement by the President of the thirty-sixth session of the General Conference in 1992 concerning the item entitled 'Israeli nuclear capabilities and threat'. That statement considered it desirable not to consider that item at the thirty-seventh session. The General Conference also recalls the statement by the President of the forty-second session, in 1998, concerning the same agenda item. At the forty-third session, the item was, at the request of certain member States, included again in the agenda. The item was discussed. The President notes that certain member States intend to include the item in the provisional agenda of the forty-fourth regular session of the General Conference",

1. *Takes note* of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency;[56]

2. *Affirms its confidence* in the role of the Agency in the application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes;

3. *Takes note* of the adoption by the General Conference of the Agency of resolution GC(43)/RES/19 on the amendment to article VI of the statute and the accompanying statement by the President of the forty-third regular session of the General Conference relating to the expansion of the membership of the Board of Governors of the Agency from thirty-five to forty-three following the allocation of each member State to one of the areas listed in article VI, and recalls that the report by the Board of Governors as contained in document GC(43)/12 includes criteria and indicators to be used as guidelines in designating members to the Board of Governors, after article VI, as amended, has entered into force, on the understanding that they will serve as a reference;

4. *Welcomes* the adoption by the General Conference of the Agency of resolution GC(43)/RES/8 on the amendment of article XIV.A of the statute, which will provide for biennial budgeting by the Agency;

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[43] S/1998/38; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1998*.

[44] S/1998/312; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1998*.

[45] S/1998/694; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1998*.

[46] S/1998/927; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1998*.

[47] S/1998/1172; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1998*.

[48] S/1999/393; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1999*.

[49] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-third Regular Session, 27 September–1 October 1999* (GC(43)/RES/DEC(1999)).

[50] S/1999/1035; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1999*.

[51] International Atomic Energy Agency, INFCIRC/403.

[52] S/PRST/1994/13; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1994*.

[53] S/PRST/1994/28; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1994*.

[54] S/PRST/1994/64; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1994*.

[55] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

5. *Also welcomes* the measures and decisions taken by the Agency to maintain and strengthen the effectiveness and cost-efficiency of its integrated safeguards system in conformity with the statute of the Agency, in particular, stressing the importance of the Model Additional Protocol approved on 15 May 1997, affirms that strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of the safeguards system with a view to detecting undeclared nuclear activities must be implemented rapidly and universally by all concerned States and other parties in compliance with their respective international commitments, and requests all concerned States and other parties to safeguards agreements to conclude additional protocols without delay;

6. *Urges* all States to strive for effective and harmonious international cooperation in carrying out the work of the Agency, pursuant to its statute, in promoting the use of nuclear energy and the application of the necessary measures to strengthen further the safety of nuclear installations and to minimize risks to life, health and the environment, in strengthening technical assistance and cooperation for developing countries and in ensuring the effectiveness and efficiency of the safeguards system of the Agency;

7. *Welcomes* the measures and decisions taken by the Agency to strengthen and fund its technical cooperation activities, which should contribute to achieving sustainable development in developing countries, and calls upon States to cooperate in contributing to and in implementing the measures and decisions pursuant thereto;

8. *Commends* the Director General and the secretariat of the Agency for their continuing, impartial efforts to implement the safeguards agreement still in force between the Agency and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, recognizes the important role of the Agency in monitoring the freeze of nuclear facilities in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as requested by the Security Council, expresses deep concern about the continuing non-compliance of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with the safeguards agreement, in spite of repeated calls by the international community for such compliance, calls upon the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to comply fully with that safeguards agreement and, to this end, urges it to cooperate fully with the Agency in the implementation of the safeguards agreement and to take all steps the Agency may deem necessary to preserve all information relevant to verifying the accuracy and completeness of the initial report of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the inventory of nuclear material subject to safeguards, until the Democratic People's Republic of Korea comes into full compliance with the safeguards agreement;

9. *Also commends* the Director General of the Agency and his staff for their strenuous efforts to implement Security Council resolutions 687 (1991) of 3 April 1991, 707 (1991) of 15 August 1991, 715 (1991) of 11 October 1991, 1051 (1996) of 27 March 1996, 1060 (1996) of 12 June 1996, 1115 (1997) of 21 June 1997, 1154 (1998) of 2 March 1998, 1194 (1998) of 9 September 1998 and 1205 (1998) of 5 November 1998, stresses the need for full implementation by Iraq of all relevant Security Council resolutions, stresses also that the Agency's ongoing monitoring and verification activities should be resumed without delay, and stresses further that it is essential that, although the Agency is satisfied that the remaining questions which were unanswered as of mid-December 1998 do not prevent the full implementation of the ongoing monitoring and verification plan, the basis for this resumption preserve the Agency's rights specified in its ongoing monitoring and verification plan, including the full exercise of rights of access as enshrined therein and the necessary cooperation of Iraq, and that greater transparency by Iraq in its dealings with the Agency would contribute greatly to the resolution of the few remaining questions and concerns in the framework of the plan;

10. *Welcomes* the entry into force on 24 October 1996 of the Convention on Nuclear Safety,[56] appeals to all States to become parties to it so that it obtains the widest possible adherence, expresses its satisfaction with the outcome of the first review meeting of the contracting parties to the Convention, held in April 1999, and looks forward to the report from the second review meeting, expecting safety improvements, in particular in all areas where the first review meeting found that there was room for such improvements;

11. *Also welcomes* the measures taken by the Agency in support of efforts to prevent illicit trafficking in nuclear materials and other radioactive sources and, in this context, decides to bear in mind, while drafting an international convention on the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism, the activities of the Agency in the prevention and combating of illicit trafficking in nuclear material and other radioactive materials;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Director General of the Agency the records of the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly relating to the activities of the Agency.

RESOLUTION 54/29

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 18 November 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.30 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay and Venezuela

54/29. University for Peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in its resolution 34/111 of 14 December 1979 it approved the idea of establishing the University for Peace as a specialized international centre for postgraduate studies, research and the dissemination of knowledge specifically aimed at training and education for peace and its universal promotion within the United Nations system,

Recalling also that in its resolution 35/55 of 5 December 1980 it approved the establishment of the University for Peace in conformity with the International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace,[57]

Recalling further its resolutions 45/8 of 24 October 1990, 46/11 of 24 October 1991 and 48/9 of 25 October 1993,

Recalling that in its resolution 46/11 it decided to include in the agenda of its forty-eighth session and biennially thereafter an item entitled "University for Peace",

Recalling also its resolution 50/41 of 8 December 1995, in which it decided to request the Secretary-General to consider ways of strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the University for Peace and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session,

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[56] International Atomic Energy Agency, INFCIRC/449.

[57] See resolution 35/55, annex.

Recalling further its adoption on 13 September 1999 of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace,[58]

Noting that in 1991 the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the United Nations Development Programme, established a Trust Fund for Peace consisting of voluntary contributions in order to provide the University with the means necessary to extend its sphere of activity to the whole world, taking full advantage of its potential capacity for education, research and support of the United Nations and to carry out its mandate of promoting peace in the world,

Noting with appreciation that the Government of Uruguay, by agreement with the University for Peace, established in 1997 a World Centre for Research and Information on Peace as regional sub-headquarters of the University for South America,

Noting also with appreciation the vigorous actions taken by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and with the encouragement and support of the Government of Costa Rica, to revitalize the University,

Noting that the University has placed special emphasis on the area of conflict prevention, peacekeeping, peace-building and peaceful settlement of disputes, and that it has launched programmes in the areas of democratic consensus-building and training of academic experts in the techniques of peaceful settlement of conflicts,

Noting also that the University has launched a broad programme for building a culture of peace in Central America and the Caribbean in the context of the efforts being made by the United Nations and by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for the development and promotion of a culture of peace,

Noting with appreciation that the University is organizing a symposium in celebration of the International Year of Older Persons, 1999, at which it will emphasize the valuable contribution that older persons can make to the promotion of peace, solidarity, tolerance and the culture of peace,

Recognizing the important and varied activities carried out by the University during the period 1997–1999, within its financial limitations and with the valuable assistance and contributions of Governments, foundations and non-governmental organizations,

Considering the importance of promoting education for peace that fosters respect for the values inherent in peace and universal coexistence among persons, including respect for the life, dignity and integrity of human beings, as well as friendship and solidarity among peoples irrespective of their nationality, race, sex, religion or culture,

Considering that, by its resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997, the General Assembly proclaimed the year 2000 as the International Year for the Culture of Peace and that it should be ushered in with One Day in Peace, 1 January 2000,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General[60] submitted pursuant to resolution 52/9 of 4 November 1997, on ways of strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the University for Peace;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider using the services of the University in his conflict-resolution and peace-building efforts;

3. *Invites* Member States, intergovernmental bodies, non-governmental organizations and interested individuals to contribute directly to the Trust Fund for Peace or to the budget of the University;

4. *Invites* Member States to accede to the International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace, thereby demonstrating their support for an educational institution devoted to the promotion of a universal culture of peace;

5. *Invites* Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and all the peoples of the world to celebrate One Day in Peace, 1 January 2000;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "University for Peace".

RESOLUTION 54/30

Adopted at the 50th plenary meeting, on 22 November 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.17/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Venezuela.

54/30. Emergency response to disasters

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/236 of 22 December 1989 on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction and agreed conclusions 1999/1 of the humanitarian affairs segment of the substantive session of 1999 of the Economic and Social Council,[61]

Deeply regretting the great number of casualties and the unprecedented devastation caused by one of the most powerful earthquakes of the century, which struck the north-west region of Turkey on 17 August 1999,

Expressing its deep sorrow at the loss of lives and devastation caused by the earthquake on 7 September 1999 in the north of Athens,

Noting with appreciation the prompt response of Governments, international agencies and organizations, non-governmental organizations and individuals throughout the world in providing search and rescue and emergency relief assistance to the victims of the earthquake in Turkey,

Expressing its satisfaction for the timely assistance provided by Governments, international agencies and organizations, non-governmental organizations and individuals throughout the world to the search and rescue and relief efforts undertaken by Greece in the aftermath of the 7 September earthquake,

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[58] Resolution 53/243.

[59] A/54/312, para. 2.

[60] A/54/312.

[61] A/54/3, chap. VI, para. 5. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1).

Welcoming the efforts of the Secretary-General as regards the urgent steps he has taken to mobilize humanitarian assistance and to coordinate activities of agencies of the United Nations system in the field for purposeful and unified assistance by the international community,

Deeply concerned about the fact that natural disasters in every corner of the globe continue to claim high numbers of casualties and cause immense material damage and that the frequency and magnitude of these catastrophes place an ever-increasing material and moral burden on nations,

Reiterating the importance of mounting prompt and effective rescue operations in the aftermath of such deadly calamities in the future, as evidenced by the exemplary response of the international community to the earthquakes in Turkey and Greece,

1. *Expresses its solidarity* with the Governments and the peoples of Greece and Turkey as they cope with the consequences of the disasters;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to all States of the international community, international agencies and organizations and non-governmental organizations and individuals that are providing emergency relief to the affected areas;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the decision taken by the Governments of Greece and Turkey to establish a joint standby disaster relief unit comprising contingents drawn from governmental and non-governmental organizations and agencies of both countries to reinforce and expand existing standby arrangements of the United Nations system with no financial implications to the programme budget of the United Nations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, to formulate the modalities for the utilization of the standby disaster relief unit by the relevant agencies of the United Nations system;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/31

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 24 November 1999, by a recorded vote of 129 to 1, with 4 abstentions,[16] on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.31 and Add.1, sponsored by: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Samoa, Senegal, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay

54/31. Oceans and the law of the sea

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/28 of 6 December 1994, 52/26 of 26 November 1997 and 53/32 of 24 November 1998 and other relevant resolutions adopted subsequent to the entry into force of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea[17] ("the Convention") on 16 November 1994,

Recalling also its resolution 2749 (XXV) of 17 December 1970, and considering that the Convention, together with the Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982[18] ("the Agreement"), provides the regime to be applied to the Area and its resources as defined in the Convention,

Emphasizing the universal character of the Convention and its fundamental importance for the maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security, as well as for the sustainable use and development of the seas and oceans and their resources,

Conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole,

Noting with satisfaction the increase in the number of States parties to the Convention and the Agreement,

Recognizing the impact on States of the entry into force of the Convention and the Agreement and the increasing need, particularly of developing States, for advice and assistance in their implementation in order to benefit thereunder,

Noting that developing countries, in particular small island developing States, may need assistance in the preparation and publication of charts under articles 16, 22, 47, 75 and 84 and annex II to the Convention,

Taking note with concern of the financial situation of the International Seabed Authority ("the Authority") and of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea ("the Tribunal"),

Conscious of the need to promote and facilitate international cooperation at the subregional, regional and global levels in order to ensure the orderly and sustainable development of the uses and resources of the seas and oceans,

Conscious also of the importance of education and training in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea,

Reaffirming the strategic importance of the Convention as a framework for national, regional and global action in the marine sector, as recognized also by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[19]

Welcoming the review by the Commission on Sustainable Development on oceans and seas and the adoption of the recommendations made by the Commission through the Economic and Social Council,[20]

Taking note of the major challenges as well as the areas of particular concern facing the international community, as formulated in the recommendations on oceans and seas made by the Commission on Sustainable Development through the Economic and Social Council,[67]

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[16] For details, see annex II.

[17] *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea*, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

[18] Resolution 48/263, annex.

[19] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[20] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 9* (E/1999/29), chap. I.C, decision 7/1.

Expressing its concern in this context at the continuing threat posed to the sea by the dumping of nuclear waste and other toxic substances,

Recognizing the positive benefits for the marine environment that can be achieved through cooperative work within the regional seas programme of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Expressing its concern at the increasing threat to shipping from piracy and armed robbery at sea and its appreciation and support for the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization in this area,

Reaffirming the importance of enhancing the safety of navigation as well as the necessity for cooperation in this regard,

Emphasizing the importance of the protection of the underwater cultural heritage, and recalling in this context the provisions of article 303 of the Convention,

Expressing its appreciation once again to the Secretary-General for his efforts in support of the Convention and in its effective implementation, including providing assistance in the functioning of the institutions created by the Convention,

Noting the responsibilities of the Secretary-General under the Convention and related resolutions of the General Assembly, in particular resolutions 49/28 and 52/26, and emphasizing the importance of the performance of such responsibilities for the effective and consistent implementation of the Convention,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[68] and reaffirming the importance of the annual consideration and review by the General Assembly of the overall developments pertaining to the implementation of the Convention, as well as of other developments relating to the law of the sea and ocean affairs,

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention and the Agreement;

2. *Reaffirms* the unified character of the Convention;

3. *Calls upon* States to harmonize as a matter of priority their national legislation with the provisions of the Convention, to ensure the consistent application of those provisions and to ensure also that any declarations or statements that they have made or make when signing, ratifying or acceding are in conformity with the Convention and to withdraw any of their declarations or statements that are not in conformity;

4. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to deposit with the Secretary-General charts and lists of geographical coordinates, as provided for in the Convention;

7. *Notes with satisfaction* the continued contribution of the Tribunal to the peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with Part XV of the Convention, and underlines its important role and authority concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Agreement;

8. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to consider making a written declaration choosing from the means set out in article 287 for the settlement of disputes concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Agreement, and invites States to note the provisions of annexes V, VI, VII and VIII to the Convention concerning, respectively, conciliation, the Tribunal, arbitration and special arbitration;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to circulate lists of conciliators and arbitrators drawn up and maintained in accordance with annexes V and VII to the Convention and to update these lists accordingly;

10. *Notes* the current work of the Authority, and emphasizes the importance of the commitment of its members to work expeditiously towards the adoption during 2000 of the regulations on prospecting and exploration for polymetallic nodules;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the adoption of the Headquarters Agreement between the Government of Jamaica and the Authority;[69]

12. *Calls upon* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the Tribunal[70] and to the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the Authority;[71]

13. *Appeals* to all States parties to the Convention to pay their assessed contributions to the Authority and to the Tribunal, respectively, in full and on time in order to ensure that they are able to carry out their functions as provided for in the Convention, and appeals also to the States which are former provisional members of the Authority to pay any outstanding contributions;

14. *Notes* the progress in the work of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf ("the Commission"), including the adoption of the scientific and technical guidelines and annexes thereto[72] aimed at facilitating the preparation of submissions regarding the outer limits of the continental shelf in accordance with article 76 and annex II to the Convention, and the adoption of an action plan on training,[73] taking into account, in particular, the needs of developing States;

15. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission to convene an open meeting during its seventh session, aimed at familiarizing States with the necessity to implement the provisions of article 76 and annex II to the Convention relating to the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, and encourages States to attend the meeting;

16. *Approves* the convening by the Secretary-General of the seventh session of the Commission in New York from 1 to 5 May 2000 and, if necessary, an eighth session from 28 August to 1 September 2000;

17. *Urges* States to take all practicable steps to prevent the pollution of the sea by dumping of radioactive materials and industrial wastes, in accordance with the relevant

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[67] Ibid., paras. 3–36.

[68] A/54/429 and Corr.1.

[69] ISBA/3/A/L.3, annex.

[70] SPLOS/25.

[71] ISBA/4/A/8, annex.

[72] CLCS/11 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1.

[73] See CLCS/19.

provisions of the 1972 Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter[74] and its amendments;

18. *Calls upon* States to become parties to and to implement the 1996 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter;[75]

19. *Encourages* States to continue to support the regional seas programme, which has achieved success in a number of geographic areas, and to work within the United Nations Environment Programme to enhance cooperation in the protection of the marine environment;

20. *Calls upon* States to cooperate fully with the International Maritime Organization to combat piracy and armed robbery against ships, including by submitting reports on incidents to that organization;

21. *Also calls upon* States to implement the International Maritime Organization guidelines on preventing attacks of piracy and armed robbery and to cooperate with the International Maritime Organization Correspondence Group, established to draw up standard guidelines for Governments in investigating attacks against ships and prosecuting offenders, and with other initiatives of the organization in this area;

22. *Urges* all States, in particular coastal States in affected regions, to take all necessary and appropriate measures to prevent and combat incidents of piracy and armed robbery at sea, including through regional cooperation, and to investigate or cooperate in the investigation of such incidents wherever they occur and bring the alleged perpetrators to justice, in accordance with international law;

23. *Urges* States to become parties to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation and its Protocol[76] and to ensure its effective implementation;

24. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the annual comprehensive report on oceans and the law of the sea[58] prepared by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat, as well as for the other activities of the Division, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and the mandate set forth in resolutions 49/28 and 52/26;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the institutional capacity of the Organization adequately responds to the needs of States, the newly established institutions under the Convention and other competent international organizations by providing timely advice, information, including the information in his report, and assistance, taking into account the special needs of developing countries;

26. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to carry out the responsibilities entrusted to him in the Convention and related resolutions of the General Assembly, including those mentioned in paragraph 11 of resolution 52/26, and to ensure that the performance of such activities is not adversely affected by savings as may be realized under the approved budget for the Organization;

27. *Reaffirms* the importance of ensuring the uniform and consistent application of the Convention and a coordinated approach to its overall implementation, and of strengthening technical cooperation and financial assistance for this purpose, stresses once again the continuing importance of the efforts of the Secretary-General to these ends, and reiterates its invitation to the competent international organizations and other international bodies to support these objectives;

28. *Invites* Member States and others in a position to do so to contribute to the further development of the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship Programme on the Law of the Sea established by the General Assembly in resolution 35/116 of 10 December 1980;

29. *Also invites* Member States to support the training activities under the TRAIN-SEA-COAST programme of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea;

30. *Notes* the continued work of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization towards a convention for the implementation of the provisions of the Convention, relating to the protection of the underwater cultural heritage, and re-emphasizes the importance of ensuring that the instrument to be elaborated is in full conformity with the relevant provisions of the Convention;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

32. *Reaffirms* its decision to undertake an annual review and evaluation of the implementation of the Convention and other developments relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, taking into account resolution 54/33 of 24 November 1999;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including other developments and issues relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, in connection with his annual comprehensive report on oceans and the law of the sea, and to provide the report in accordance with the modalities set out in resolution 54/33;

34. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea".

RESOLUTION 54/32

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 24 November 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.28 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Canada, Fiji, Iceland, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands and United States of America

54/32. Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[77] including Part VII, section 2,

Recognizing that the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly

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[74] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1046, No. 15749.

[75] IMO/LC.2/Circ.380.

[76] International Maritime Organization publication, Sales No. 462.88.12E.

[77] *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea*, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

Migratory Fish Stocks[78] ("the Agreement") sets forth the rights and obligations of States in authorizing the use of vessels flying their flags for fishing on the high seas,

Noting that while twenty-four States or entities have ratified or acceded to the Agreement, the Agreement has not yet entered into force,

Conscious of the need to promote and facilitate international cooperation, especially at the regional and subregional levels, in order to ensure the sustainable development and use of the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas, consistent with the present resolution,

Noting that the stock situation for some species of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks is of great concern owing to the fact that those stocks have not been subject to adequate regulatory measures,

Recognizing the importance of actions States and other entities should take in order to share responsibly in the use of high seas fishery resources, including straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, as outlined in Parts III and IV of the Agreement,

Recognizing also the duty provided in the Agreement and reiterated as a principle in the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations[79] for flag States to exercise effective control over fishing vessels flying their flag and vessels flying their flag which provide support to such vessels, and to ensure that the activities of such vessels do not undermine the effectiveness of conservation and management measures taken in accordance with international law and adopted at the national, subregional, regional or global levels,

Recognizing further that a number of regional fishing organizations and arrangements with competence to establish conservation and management measures regarding straddling fish stocks and/or highly migratory fish stocks are already taking significant conservation measures to promote the recovery and long-term sustainable use of fish stocks worldwide, and that in order for those efforts to succeed it is important that all States and entities, including those which are not members of these organizations or party to these arrangements, cooperate and observe these conservation and management measures,

Taking note of the obligation of States and other entities and regional and subregional fishery management organizations and arrangements to take measures to prevent or eliminate overfishing, and encouraging all States to participate in the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on the subject,

Noting that some regional fisheries organizations and arrangements, including those mentioned in the report of the Secretary-General,[80,81] have recently taken measures to ensure that fishing vessels flying the flags of non-members of those organizations or non-parties to those arrangements do not undermine the regionally adopted conservation and management measures,

Recognizing that the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas[82] builds upon the legal framework established by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, and also recognizing the importance of that Agreement and noting that it also has not yet entered into force,

Taking note with concern that straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks in some parts of the world have been subject to heavy and little-regulated fishing efforts, and that some stocks continue to be overfished, mainly as a result of unauthorized fishing,

Concerned that illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing, including that noted in the report of the Secretary-General,[83] threatens serious depletion of populations of certain fish species, and in that regard urging States and entities to collaborate in efforts to address these types of fishing activities,

Noting the importance of the wide application of the precautionary approach to the conservation, management and exploitation of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, in accordance with the Agreement,

Reaffirming the importance it attaches to compliance with its resolution 46/215 of 20 December 1991, in particular those provisions calling for full implementation of a global moratorium on all large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing on the high seas of the world's oceans and seas, including enclosed seas and semi-enclosed seas,

Reaffirming also its resolution 49/116 of 19 December 1994 on unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas, as well as its resolution 52/28 of 26 November 1997 and other relevant resolutions,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on recent developments and current status of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks;[80]

2. *Calls upon* all States and other entities referred to in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement that have not done

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[78] *International Fisheries Instruments* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.V.11), sect. I; see also A/CONF.164/37.

[79] Ibid., sect. III.

[80] A/54/461.

[81] The organizations and arrangements mentioned are: International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, Commission on Biological Resources of the Caspian Sea, General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean, Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission, South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency, Multilateral High-level Conference on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific, Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission, Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization, Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission, Fishery Committee for Eastern Central Atlantic and South-East Atlantic Fisheries Organization.

[82] *International Fisheries Instruments* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.V.11), sect. II.

[83] Particularly in the Convention area for the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources; see A/54/429, paras. 249–257 and 300–304.

so to ratify or accede to it and to consider applying it provisionally;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the early entry into force and effective implementation of the Agreement;

4. *Reaffirms* the importance it attaches to compliance with its resolutions 46/215, 49/116, 49/118 of 19 December 1994 and 52/28, and urges States and other entities to enforce such measures fully;

5. *Calls upon* all States and other entities referred to in article X, paragraph 1, of the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas[82] that have not done so to accept that instrument;

6. *Calls upon* all States to ensure that their vessels comply with the conservation and management measures in accordance with the Agreement that have been adopted by subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

7. *Calls upon* States not to permit vessels flying their flag to engage in fishing on the high seas without having effective control over their activities and to take specific measures to control fishing operations by vessels flying their flag;

8. *Calls upon* the International Maritime Organization, in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant international organizations, and in consultation with States and entities, to define the concept of the genuine link between the fishing vessel and the State in order to assist in the implementation of the Agreement;

9. *Urges* all States to participate in the efforts of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to develop an international plan of action to address illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing, in particular the Meeting of Experts and Technical Consultation in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations scheduled for 2000, and in all efforts to coordinate all the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations with other international organizations, including the International Maritime Organization;

10. *Encourages* all States and entities concerned to work with flag States and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in developing and implementing measures to combat or curb illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing;

11. *Calls upon* States to provide assistance to developing States as outlined in the Agreement, and notes the importance of participation by representatives of developing States in forums in which fisheries issues are discussed;

12. *Encourages* States and other entities to integrate in an appropriate manner the requirements for the protection of the environment, notably those resulting from multilateral environmental agreements, in the management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all members of the international community, relevant intergovernmental organizations, the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, regional and subregional fisheries management organizations or arrangements and relevant non-governmental organizations, and invites them to provide the Secretary-General with information relevant to the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on further developments relating to the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea", the sub-item entitled "Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks".

RESOLUTION 54/33

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 24 November 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.32 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Fiji, France, Guatemala, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Samoa, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Vanuatu

54/33. Results of the review by the Commission on Sustainable Development of the sectoral theme of "Oceans and seas": international coordination and cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/28 of 6 December 1994 on the Law of the Sea and 53/32 of 24 November 1998 on oceans and the law of the sea,

Mindful of the importance of the oceans and seas for the earth's ecosystem and for providing the vital resources for food security and for sustaining economic prosperity and the well-being of present and future generations,

Convinced that all aspects of oceans and seas are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole,

Recalling that the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea[84] sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out, and with which these activities should be consistent, as recognized also by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[85]

Recognizing the importance of maintaining the integrity of the Convention,

Convinced of the importance of the annual consideration and review of ocean affairs and the law of the sea by the General Assembly, as the global institution having the competence to undertake such a review,

Convinced also of the need, building on existing arrangements, for an integrated approach to all legal, economic, social, environmental and other relevant aspects of oceans and seas and the need to improve coordination and cooperation at both the intergovernmental and inter-agency levels,

Bearing in mind the necessity of strengthening existing structures and mandates within the United Nations system and the need to avoid duplication or overlapping of debates that take place in other forums,

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[84] *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea*, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

[85] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I, *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

Recognizing the important role that international organizations have in relation to ocean affairs and in promoting sustainable development of the oceans and seas and their resources,

Recognizing also the significant contribution that major groups, as identified in Agenda 21, can make to this goal,

Welcoming the review of the sectoral theme of "Oceans and seas" by the Commission on Sustainable Development, in particular those aspects related to international coordination and cooperation,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations made by the Commission on Sustainable Development through the Economic and Social Council under the sectoral theme of "Oceans and seas" regarding international coordination and cooperation;[86]

2. *Decides*, consistent with the legal framework provided by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea[84] and the goals of chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[85] to establish an open-ended informal consultative process in order to facilitate the annual review by the General Assembly, in an effective and constructive manner, of developments in ocean affairs by considering the Secretary-General's report on oceans and the law of the sea and by suggesting particular issues to be considered by it, with an emphasis on identifying areas where coordination and cooperation at the intergovernmental and inter-agency levels should be enhanced;

3. *Also decides* that the meetings within the framework of the consultative process will be organized as follows:

(*a*) The meetings will be open to all States Members of the United Nations, States members of the specialized agencies, all parties to the Convention, entities that have received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the work of the General Assembly pursuant to its relevant resolutions,[87] and intergovernmental organizations with competence in ocean affairs;

(*b*) The meetings will take place for one week each year; in 2000 they will be held from 30 May to 2 June;

(*c*) The meetings will deliberate on the Secretary-General's report on oceans and the law of the sea, with due account given to any particular resolution or decision of the General Assembly, any relevant special reports of the Secretary-General and any relevant recommendations of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

(*d*) The meetings should, in identifying areas where coordination and cooperation are to be enhanced, bear in mind the differing characteristics and needs of the different regions of the world, and should not pursue legal or juridical coordination among the different legal instruments;

(*e*) The meetings will be coordinated by two co-chairpersons, who will be appointed by the President of the General Assembly in consultation with Member States and taking into account the need for representation from developed and developing countries;

(*f*) The co-chairpersons will elaborate, in consultation with delegations, a format for the discussions that best facilitates the work of the consultative process, in accordance with the rules of procedure and practices of the General Assembly;

(*g*) In accordance with the rules of procedure and practices of the General Assembly, the format of this informal consultative process should ensure the opportunity to receive input from representatives of the major groups as identified in Agenda 21, in particular through the organization of discussion panels;

(*h*) The meetings may propose elements for the consideration of the General Assembly, including, as appropriate, in relation to Assembly resolutions under the agenda item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea";

4. *Further decides* to review the effectiveness and utility of the consultative process at its fifty-seventh session;

5. *Highlights* the importance of the participation of developing countries, including least developed countries and small island developing States, in the consultative process, and encourages States and international organizations to support efforts in this regard;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the consultative process with the necessary facilities for the performance of its work and to arrange for support to be provided by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat, in cooperation with other relevant parts of the Secretariat, including the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, as appropriate;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, working in cooperation with the heads of relevant organizations of the United Nations, to include in his annual comprehensive report to the General Assembly on oceans and the law of the sea, suggestions on initiatives that could be undertaken to improve coordination and cooperation and achieve better integration on ocean affairs, and requests the Secretary-General to make the report available at least six weeks in advance of the meeting of the consultative process;

8. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, working through appropriate United Nations bodies and in cooperation with the heads of relevant organizations, funds or programmes of the United Nations, to undertake measures aimed at:

(*a*) Ensuring more effective collaboration and coordination between relevant parts of the Secretariat and the United Nations system as a whole on ocean affairs and the law of the sea;

(*b*) Improving the effectiveness, transparency and responsiveness of the Subcommittee on Oceans and Coastal Areas of the Administrative Committee on Coordination;

and to include information on progress in this regard in his next report on oceans and the law of the sea;

9. *Notes* the importance of coordination and cooperation at the national level in order to promote an integrated approach on ocean affairs so as, *inter alia*, to facilitate the effective participation of States in the consultative process and other international forums;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of heads of intergovernmental organizations, the specialized agencies and funds and programmes of the United Nations engaged in activities relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, and the Subcommittee on Oceans and Coastal Areas of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, and underlines the

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[86] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 9* (E/1999/29), chap. I, sect. C, decision 7/1, paras. 37–45.

[87] Resolutions 253 (III), 477 (V), 2011 (XX), 3208 (XXIX), 3237 (XXIX), 3369 (XXX), 31/3, 33/18, 35/2, 35/3, 36/4, 42/10, 43/6, 44/6, 45/6, 46/8, 47/4, 48/2, 48/3, 48/4, 48/5, 48/237, 48/265, 49/1, 49/2, 50/2, 51/1, 51/6, 51/204, 52/6, 53/5, 53/6, 54/5 and 54/10.

importance of their participation in the consultative process and of their input to the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea;

11. *Invites* Member States, as part of their participation in relevant competent bodies of intergovernmental organizations engaged in activities relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, to encourage their participation in the consultative process and their contribution to the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea.

RESOLUTION 54/34

Adopted at the 63rd plenary meeting, on 24 November 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.26 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, VietNam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe

54/34. Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/21 of 25 November 1997, in which it decided to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session the item entitled "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal" and to consider this item every two years in advance of each Summer and Winter Olympic Games,

Recalling also its resolution 48/11 of 25 October 1993, which, *inter alia*, revived the ancient Greek tradition of the *ekecheiria*, or "Olympic Truce", calling for all hostilities to cease during the Games, thereby mobilizing the youth of the world in the cause of peace,

Taking into account resolution CM/Res. 1608 (LXII), adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its sixty-second ordinary session, held at Addis Ababa from 21 to 23 June 1995,[55] and endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of that organization, which supports the appeal for an Olympic Truce,

Recognizing the valuable contribution that the appeal launched by the International Olympic Committee for an Olympic Truce, with which the National Olympic Committees of the Member States are associated, could make towards advancing the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming that the Olympic ideal promotes international understanding, particularly among the youth of the world, through sport and culture in order to advance the harmonious development of mankind,

Noting with satisfaction the flying of the United Nations flag at all competition sites of the Olympic Games and the increasing number of joint endeavours of the International Olympic Committee and the United Nations system, for example in the fields of development, humanitarian assistance, protection of the environment, health promotion, education, eradication of poverty, the fight against AIDS, drug abuse, violence and juvenile delinquency,

Noting also with satisfaction the joint organization by the International Olympic Committee and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of the World Conference on Education and Sport for a Culture of Peace in Paris from 5 to 7 July 1999, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/13 of 20 November 1997, and their initiation of a programme of action pursuant to Assembly resolution 53/243 of 13 September 1999,

1. *Urges* Member States to observe the Olympic Truce during the games of the XXVII Olympiad, to be held at Sydney, Australia, from 15 September to 1 October 2000, the vision of which, at the dawn of the new millennium, is to be a highly harmonious, athlete-oriented and environmentally committed Olympic Games;

2. *Also urges* Member States to take the initiative to abide by the Olympic Truce, individually and collectively, and to pursue, in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the peaceful settlement of all international conflicts through diplomatic solutions;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to cooperate with the International Olympic Committee in its efforts to use the Olympic Truce as an instrument to promote peace, dialogue and reconciliation in areas of conflict, beyond the Olympic Games period;

4. *Reaffirms* the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace, adopted in its resolution 53/243, and in this context welcomes the decision of the International Olympic Committee to mobilize all international sports organizations and National Olympic Committees of the Member States to undertake concrete action at the local, national, regional and world levels to promote and strengthen a culture of peace based on the spirit of the Olympic Truce;

5. *Welcomes* the setting up by the International Olympic Committee of an International Olympic Forum for Development, a platform for consultation between intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on issues related to the development of physical education and sport for all, and an International Centre for the Olympic Truce to promote peace and human values through sport and the Olympic ideal;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote the observance of the Olympic Truce among Member States, drawing the attention of world public opinion to the contribution such a truce would make to the promotion of international understanding and the preservation of peace and goodwill, and to cooperate with the International Olympic Committee in the realization of this objective;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal" and to consider this item before the XIX Olympic Winter Games, to be held at Salt Lake City, United States of America, in 2002.

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[55] A/50/647, annex I.

RESOLUTION 54/35

Adopted at the 63rd plenary meeting, on 24 November 1999, by a recorded vote of 97 to none, with 1 abstention,[89] on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.35 and Add.1, sponsored by: Angola, Argentina, Benin, Brazil, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Namibia, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Togo and Uruguay

54/35. Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 41/11 of 27 October 1986, in which it solemnly declared the Atlantic Ocean, in the region between Africa and South America, the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic,

Recalling also its subsequent resolutions on the matter, including resolution 45/36 of 27 November 1990, in which it reaffirmed the determination of the States of the zone to enhance and accelerate their cooperation in the political, economic, scientific, cultural and other spheres,

Reaffirming that the questions of peace and security and those of development are interrelated and inseparable and that cooperation for peace and development among States of the region will promote the objectives of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic,

Aware of the importance that the States of the zone attach to the environment of the region, and recognizing the threat that pollution from any source poses to the marine and coastal environment, its ecological balance and its resources,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of the purposes and objectives of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic as a basis for the promotion of cooperation among the countries of the region;

2. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate in the promotion of the objectives established in the declaration of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic and to refrain from any action inconsistent with those objectives and with the Charter of the United Nations and relevant resolutions of the Organization, in particular actions that may create or aggravate situations of tension and potential conflict in the region;

3. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[90] submitted in accordance with its resolution 53/34 of 25 November 1998;

4. *Recalls* the agreement reached at the third meeting of the States members of the zone, held in Brasilia in 1994, to encourage democracy and political pluralism and, in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[91] to promote and defend all human rights and fundamental freedoms and to cooperate towards the achievement of those goals;

5. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the holding of the fifth meeting of the States members of the zone in Buenos Aires, on 21 and 22 October 1998, and takes note of the Final Declaration and Plan of Action adopted at the meeting;[92]

6. *Welcomes* the progress towards the full entry into force of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)[93] and of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba);[94]

7. *Also welcomes* the entry into force of the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials,[95] adopted in November 1997, and the adoption of the Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States in June 1999;

8. *Further welcomes* the decision on the illicit proliferation, circulation and trafficking of small arms and light weapons[96] taken by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, held in Algiers in July 1999, as well as the decisions on the prevention and combating of illicit trafficking in small arms and related crimes[97] taken by the Council of the Southern African Development Community at its nineteenth Summit of Heads of State or Government, held in Maputo in August 1999, and the initiatives taken by States members of the Economic Community of West African States to conclude their agreement on a moratorium on the importing, exporting and manufacture of light weapons;

9. *Welcomes* the restoration of democracy in Nigeria and the commitment of the present Nigerian Government to transparency and good governance;

10. *Also welcomes* the signing of the Peace Agreement between the Government of Sierra Leone and the Revolutionary United Front,[98] in Lomé on 7 July 1999, calls upon the respective parties to implement the agreement fully, commends in this regard the President of Togo and the Economic Community of West African States, together with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Sierra Leone and all those involved in facilitating the negotiations in Lomé, on their contribution to this achievement, and welcomes the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 1270 (1999) of 22 October 1999 on the establishment of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone;

11. *Further welcomes* the decision taken by the Government of Liberia to destroy arms and ammunition collected during the disarmament exercise and the completion in Liberia in October of 1999 of the weapons destruction programme, an important step in the fight against the proliferation of arms, which would promote peace, confidence and cooperation in the region;

12. *Welcomes* the signing of the Ceasefire Agreement on the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,[99] in Lusaka on 10 July 1999, and the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 1258 (1999) of 6 August 1999, commends in that context the Organization of African Unity and the Southern African Development Community and, in particular, the President of Zambia, for their efforts to find a

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[89] For details, see annex II.

[90] A/54/447.

[91] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[92] A/53/650, annex.

[93] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[94] See A/50/426, annex.

[95] A/53/78, annex.

[96] A/54/424, annex II, decision AHG/Dec. 137 (XXXV).

[97] A/54/488–S/1999/1082, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1999*, document S/1999/1082.

[98] S/1999/777, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999*.

[99] S/1999/815, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999*.

peaceful settlement to the conflict, and also commends the Secretary-General, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the peace process in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Representative of the Secretary-General to the Great Lakes Region and all those who contributed to the peace process;

13. *Calls* for the full implementation of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement, urges all the parties in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to engage in a process of political dialogue and negotiation without delay, and calls upon the international community to extend the necessary support to the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations and the Joint Military Commission to enable them to carry out their mandate without further delay;

14. *Reaffirms* the importance for Member States to contribute by all means at their disposal to an effective and lasting peace in Angola, and in that context reiterates that the primary cause of the present situation in Angola is the failure of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola under the leadership of Jonas Savimbi to comply with its obligations under the Peace Accords,[100] the Lusaka Protocol[101] and relevant Security Council resolutions;

15. *Views with concern* the humanitarian effects on the civilian population of the present situation in Angola, commends in this regard the efforts of Member States, including the Government of Angola, and humanitarian organizations in rendering humanitarian assistance to Angola, and urges them to continue to provide and to increase such assistance;

16. *Notes* the commitment of the provisional Government of Guinea-Bissau to holding legislative and presidential elections on 28 November 1999, and calls upon the international community and the Government of Guinea-Bissau to support the economic reconstruction of, and to promote the consolidation of democracy in, Guinea-Bissau;

17. *Affirms* the importance of the South Atlantic to global maritime and commercial transactions and its determination to preserve the region for all peaceful purposes and activities protected by international law, in particular the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;[102]

18. *Calls upon* Member States to continue their efforts towards the achievement of appropriate regulation of maritime transport of radioactive and toxic wastes, taking into account the interests of coastal States and in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the regulations of the International Maritime Organization and the International Atomic Energy Agency;

19. *Views with concern* the increase in drug trafficking and related crimes, including drug abuse, and calls upon the international community and the States members of the zone to promote regional and international cooperation to combat all aspects of the problem of drugs and related offences;

20. *Recognizes*, in the light of the number, magnitude and complexity of natural disasters and other emergencies, the need to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance by States members of the zone, so as to ensure a timely and effective response;

21. *Welcomes* the offer by Benin to host the sixth meeting of the States members of the zone;

22. *Requests* the relevant organizations, organs and bodies of the United Nations system to render all appropriate assistance that States members of the zone may seek in their joint efforts to implement the declaration of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the implementation of resolution 41/11 and subsequent resolutions on the matter under review and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, taking into account, *inter alia*, the views expressed by Member States;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic".

RESOLUTION 54/36

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 29 November 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.33 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Yemen

54/36. Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the indissoluble links between the principles enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[103] and the foundations of any democratic society,

Recalling the Manila Declaration[104] adopted by the First International Conference of New or Restored Democracies[105] in June 1988,

Considering the major changes taking place on the international scene and the aspirations of all peoples for an international order based on the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, including the promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and other important principles, such as respect for the equal rights and self-determination of peoples, peace, democracy, justice, equality, the rule of law, pluralism, development, better standards of living and solidarity,

Recalling its resolution 49/30 of 7 December 1994 in which it recognized the importance of the Managua Declaration[106] and Plan of Action[107] adopted by the Second International Conference of New or Restored Democracies in July 1994, as well as its resolutions 50/133 of 20 December 1995, 51/31 of 6 December 1996, 52/18 of 21 November 1997 and 53/31 of 23 November 1998,

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[100] S/22609; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1991*.

[101] S/1994/1441; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1994*.

[102] *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea*, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

[103] Resolution 217 A (III).

[104] A/43/538, annex.

[105] Then called the International Conference of Newly Restored Democracies.

[106] A/49/713, annex I.

[107] Ibid., annex II.

Recalling also the document entitled "Progress Review and Recommendations", adopted by the Third International Conference of New or Restored Democracies on Democracy and Development, held at Bucharest from 2 to 4 September 1997,[108] in which guidelines, principles and recommendations were addressed to Governments, civil society, the private sector, donor countries and the international community,

Noting in particular the recommendations contained in that document addressed to the United Nations system and the international financial organizations,[109]

Taking note with satisfaction of the seminars, workshops and conferences on democratization and good governance organized in 1999, as well as those currently being planned, under the auspices of the International Conference of New or Restored Democracies,

Taking note of the views of Member States expressed in the debate on this question at its forty-ninth, fiftieth, fifty-first, fifty-second, fifty-third and fifty-fourth sessions,

Bearing in mind that the activities of the United Nations carried out in support of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate democracy are undertaken in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and only at the specific request of the Member States concerned,

Also bearing in mind that democracy, development and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing and that democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and on their full participation in all aspects of their lives,

Noting that a considerable number of societies have recently undertaken significant efforts to achieve their social, political and economic goals through democratization and the reform of their economies, pursuits that are deserving of the support and recognition of the international community,

Noting with satisfaction that the Fourth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies will be held at Cotonou, Benin, from 4 to 6 December 2000,

Stressing the importance of support by Member States, the United Nations system, the specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations for the holding of the Fourth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[110]

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[110]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* for the activities carried out by the United Nations system, and endorses the recommendations contained in the report;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General, Member States, the relevant specialized agencies and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to contribute actively to the follow-up process of the Third International Conference of New or Restored Democracies on Democracy and Development;[111]

4. *Commends* the Secretary-General, and through him the United Nations system, for the activities undertaken at the request of Governments to support the efforts to consolidate democracy;

5. *Welcomes* the work carried out by the follow-up mechanism to the Third International Conference of New or Restored Democracies;

6. *Invites* the Secretary-General, Member States, the relevant specialized agencies and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as other intergovernmental organizations, to collaborate in the holding of the Fourth International Conference of New of Restored Democracies;

7. *Recognizes* that the Organization has an important role to play in providing timely, appropriate and coherent support to the efforts of Governments to achieve democratization within the context of their development efforts;

8. *Stresses* that the activities undertaken by the Organization must be in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

9. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the capacity of the Organization to respond effectively to the requests of Member States through coherent, adequate support of their efforts to achieve the goals of good governance and democratization;

10. *Encourages* Member States to promote democratization and to make additional efforts to identify possible steps to support the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies".

RESOLUTION 54/37

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 139 to 1, with 3 abstentions,[112] on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.40 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine

54/37. Jerusalem

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 36/120 E of 10 December 1981, 37/123 C of 16 December 1982, 38/180 C of 19 December 1983, 39/146 C of 14 December 1984, 40/168 C of 16 December 1985, 41/162 C of 4 December 1986, 42/209 D of 11 December 1987, 43/54 C of 6 December 1988, 44/40 C of 4 December 1989, 45/83 C of 13 December 1990, 46/82 B of 16 December 1991, 47/63 B of 11 December 1992, 48/59 A of 14 December 1993, 49/87 A of 16 December 1994, 50/22 A of 4 December 1995, 51/27 of 4 December 1996, 52/53 of 9 December 1997 and 53/37 of 2 December 1998, in which it, *inter alia*, determined that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which have altered or purported to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, in particular the so-called "Basic Law" on Jerusalem and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, were null and void and must be rescinded forthwith,

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[108] A/52/334, appendix.

[109] Ibid., sect. IV.

[110] A/54/492.

[111] Ibid., chap. II.

[112] For details, see annex II.

Recalling also Security Council resolution 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, in which the Council, *inter alia*, decided not to recognize the "Basic Law" and called upon those States which had established diplomatic missions at Jerusalem to withdraw such missions from the Holy City,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[113]

1. *Determines* that the decision of Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Holy City of Jerusalem is illegal and therefore null and void and has no validity whatsoever;

2. *Deplores* the transfer by some States of their diplomatic missions to Jerusalem in violation of Security Council resolution 478 (1980) and their refusal to comply with the provisions of that resolution;

3. *Calls once more upon* those States to abide by the provisions of the relevant United Nations resolutions, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/38

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 92 to 2, with 53 abstentions,[114] on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.41 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine

54/38. The Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East",

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[115]

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Reaffirming the fundamental principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming once more the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[116] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Deeply concerned that Israel has not withdrawn from the Syrian Golan, which has been under occupation since 1967, contrary to the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions,

Stressing the illegality of the Israeli settlement construction and activities in the occupied Syrian Golan since 1967,

Noting with satisfaction the convening at Madrid on 30 October 1991 of the Peace Conference on the Middle East, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and the formula of land for peace,

Expressing grave concern over the halt in the peace process on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks, and expressing the hope that peace talks will soon resume from the point they had reached,

1. *Declares* that Israel has failed so far to comply with Security Council resolution 497 (1981);

2. *Declares also* that the Israeli decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void and has no validity whatsoever, as confirmed by the Security Council in its resolution 497 (1981), and calls upon Israel to rescind it;

3. *Reaffirms its determination* that all relevant provisions of the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention of 1907,[117] and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[116] continue to apply to the Syrian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, and calls upon the parties thereto to respect and ensure respect for their obligations under those instruments in all circumstances;

4. *Determines once more* that the continued occupation of the Syrian Golan and its de facto annexation constitute a stumbling block in the way of achieving a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region;

5. *Calls upon* Israel to resume the talks on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks and to respect the commitments and undertakings reached during the previous talks;

6. *Demands once more* that Israel withdraw from all the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967 in implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions;

7. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned, the co-sponsors of the peace process and the entire international community to exert all the necessary efforts to ensure the resumption of the peace process and its success;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/39

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 105 to 3, with 48 abstentions,[118] on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.42 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Yemen and Palestine

54/39. Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, 3375 (XXX) and 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, 31/20 of 24 November 1976, 32/40 A of 2 December 1977,

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[113] A/54/495.

[114] For details, see annex II.

[115] A/54/495.

[116] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[117] See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

[118] For details, see annex II.

33/28 A and B of 7 December 1978, 34/65 A of 29 November 1979 and 34/65 C of 12 December 1979, ES–7/2 of 29 July 1980, 35/169 A and C of 15 December 1980, 36/120 A and C of 10 December 1981, ES–7/4 of 28 April 1982, 37/86 A of 10 December 1982, 38/58 A of 13 December 1983, 39/49 A of 11 December 1984, 40/96 A of 12 December 1985, 41/43 A of 2 December 1986, 42/66 A of 2 December 1987, 43/175 A of 15 December 1988, 44/41 A of 6 December 1989, 45/67 A of 6 December 1990, 46/74 A of 11 December 1991, 47/64 A of 11 December 1992, 48/158 A of 20 December 1993, 49/62 A of 14 December 1994, 50/84 A of 15 December 1995, 51/23 of 4 December 1996, 52/49 of 9 December 1997 and 53/39 of 2 December 1998,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[119]

Recalling the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, including its Annexes and Agreed Minutes, by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993,[120] as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, in particular the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[121] and the Memorandum signed at Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 4 September 1999,

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility with respect to the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly;

2. *Considers* that the Committee can continue to make a valuable and positive contribution to international efforts to promote the Middle East peace process and the full implementation of the agreements reached and to mobilize international support for and assistance to the Palestinian people during the transitional period;

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee contained in chapter VII of its report;[119]

4. *Requests* the Committee to continue to keep under review the situation relating to the question of Palestine and to report and make suggestions to the General Assembly or the Security Council, as appropriate;

5. *Authorizes* the Committee to continue to exert all efforts to promote the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, to make such adjustments in its approved programme of work as it may consider appropriate and necessary in the light of developments, to give special emphasis to the need to mobilize support and assistance for the Palestinian people and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session and thereafter;

6. *Requests* the Committee to continue to extend its cooperation and support to Palestinian and other non-governmental organizations in order to mobilize international solidarity and support for the achievement by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights and for a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, and to involve additional non-governmental organizations in its work;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, established under General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and other United Nations bodies associated with the question of Palestine to continue to cooperate fully with the Committee and to make available to it, at its request, the relevant information and documentation which they have at their disposal;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to circulate the report of the Committee to all the competent bodies of the United Nations, and urges them to take the necessary action, as appropriate;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Committee with all the necessary facilities for the performance of its tasks.

RESOLUTION 54/40

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 107 to 3, with 47 abstentions,[122] on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.43 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Yemen and Palestine

54/40. Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[123]

Taking note in particular of the relevant information contained in chapter V.B of that report,

Recalling its resolutions 32/40 B of 2 December 1977, 33/28 C of 7 December 1978, 34/65 D of 12 December 1979, 35/169 D of 15 December 1980, 36/120 B of 10 December 1981, 37/86 B of 10 December 1982, 38/58 B of 13 December 1983, 39/49 B of 11 December 1984, 40/96 B of 12 December 1985, 41/43 B of 2 December 1986, 42/66 B of 2 December 1987, 43/175 B of 15 December 1988, 44/41 B of 6 December 1989, 45/67 B of 6 December 1990, 46/74 B of 11 December 1991, 47/64 B of 11 December 1992, 48/158 B of 20 December 1993, 49/62 B of 14 December 1994, 50/84 B of 15 December 1995, 51/24 of 4 December 1996, 52/50 of 9 December 1997 and 53/40 of 2 December 1998,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Secretary-General in compliance with its resolution 53/40;

2. *Considers* that the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat continues to make a useful and constructive contribution;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Division with the necessary resources and to ensure that it continues to carry out its programme of work as detailed in the relevant earlier resolutions, in consultation with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and under its guidance, including, in particular, the organization of meetings in various regions with the participation of all sectors of the international community,

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[119] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/54/35).

[120] A/48/486–S/26560, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*, document S/26560.

[121] A/51/889–S/1997/357, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-second Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1997*, document S/1997/357.

[122] For details, see annex II.

[123] A/54/457–S/1999/1050; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1999*, document S/1999/1050.

the further development and expansion of the documents collection of the United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine, the preparation and widest possible dissemination of publications and information materials on various aspects of the question of Palestine, the provision of assistance in completing the project on the modernization of the records of the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine and the provision of the annual training programme for staff of the Palestinian Authority;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the continued cooperation of the Department of Public Information and other units of the Secretariat in enabling the Division to perform its tasks and in covering adequately the various aspects of the question of Palestine;

5. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Committee and the Division in the performance of their tasks;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by Member States to observe annually on 29 November the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, requests them to continue to give the widest possible publicity to the observance, and requests the Committee and the Division to continue to organize, as part of the observance of the Day of Solidarity, an annual exhibit on Palestinian rights in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations.

RESOLUTION 54/41

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 151 to 3, with 2 abstentions,[124] on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.44 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Yemen and Palestine

54/41. Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[125]

Taking note in particular of the information contained in chapter VI of that report,

Recalling its resolution 53/41 of 2 December 1998,

Convinced that the worldwide dissemination of accurate and comprehensive information and the role of non-governmental organizations and institutions remain of vital importance in heightening awareness of and support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people,

Aware of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements signed by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993,[126] and of the subsequent implementation agreements, in particular the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[127] and the Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum of 4 September 1999, and their positive implications,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in compliance with resolution 53/41;

2. *Considers* that the special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department is very useful in raising the awareness of the international community concerning the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East in general, including the achievements of the peace process, and that the programme is contributing effectively to an atmosphere conducive to dialogue and supportive of the peace process;

3. *Requests* the Department, in full cooperation and coordination with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, to continue, with the necessary flexibility as may be required by developments affecting the question of Palestine, its special information programme for the biennium 2000-2001, in particular:

(*a*) To disseminate information on all the activities of the United Nations system relating to the question of Palestine, including reports on the work carried out by the relevant United Nations organizations;

(*b*) To continue to issue and update publications on the various aspects of the question of Palestine in all fields, including materials concerning the recent developments in that regard, in particular the prospects for peace;

(*c*) To expand its collection of audiovisual material on the question of Palestine and to continue the production of such material, including the updating of the exhibit in the Secretariat;

(*d*) To organize and promote fact-finding news missions for journalists to the area, including the territories under the jurisdiction of the Palestinian Authority and the occupied territories;

(*e*) To organize international, regional and national seminars or encounters for journalists, aiming in particular at sensitizing public opinion to the question of Palestine;

(*f*) To continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people in the field of media development, in particular to strengthen the training programme for Palestinian broadcasters and journalists initiated in 1995;

4. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to promote the Bethlehem 2000 Project, within existing resources and until the Bethlehem 2000 commemoration comes to a close, including the preparation and dissemination of publications, audiovisual material and the establishment of a "Bethlehem 2000" site on the United Nations Internet home page.

RESOLUTION 54/42

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 149 to 3, with 2 abstentions[128], on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.45 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Yemen and Palestine

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[124] For details, see annex II.

[125] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/54/35).

[126] A/48/486–S/26560, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*, document S/26560.

[127] A/51/889–S/1997/357, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-second Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1997*, document S/1997/357.

[128] For details, see annex II.

54/42. Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolutions adopted at the tenth emergency special session,

Recalling also the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973,

Aware that it has been more than fifty years since the adoption of resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947 and thirty-two years since the occupation of Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, in 1967,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[129] submitted pursuant to the request made in its resolution 53/42 of 2 December 1998,

Reaffirming the permanent responsibility of the United Nations with regard to the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects,

Convinced that achieving a final and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is imperative for the attainment of a comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East,

Aware that the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples is among the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations,

Affirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war,

Affirming also the illegality of the Israeli settlements in the territory occupied since 1967 and of Israeli actions aimed at changing the status of Jerusalem,

Affirming once again the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, and the signing by the two parties of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993,[130] as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, including the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[131]

Recalling also the withdrawal of the Israeli army, which took place in the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area in 1994 in accordance with the agreements reached by the parties, and the initiation of the Palestinian Authority in those areas, as well as the subsequent redeployments of the Israeli army in the rest of the West Bank,

Noting with satisfaction the successful holding of the first Palestinian general elections,

Noting with satisfaction also the signing of the Memorandum at Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 4 September 1999,

Noting the appointment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, and its positive contribution,

Welcoming the convening of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993, as well as all follow-up meetings and the international mechanisms established to provide assistance to the Palestinian people, including the donor meeting held at Tokyo on 14 October 1999,

Expressing the hope that the Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum will be fully implemented towards full compliance with the existing agreements and the conclusion of the final settlement by the agreed time of September 2000,

1. *Reaffirms* the necessity of achieving a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, in all its aspects;

2. *Expresses its full support* for the ongoing peace process which began in Madrid and the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 1993,[130] as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, including the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip of 1995[131] and the Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum of 1999, and expresses the hope that the process will lead to the establishment of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East;

3. *Stresses* the necessity for commitment to the principle of land for peace and the implementation of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), which form the basis of the Middle East peace process, and the need for the immediate and scrupulous implementation of the agreements reached between the parties, including the redeployment of the Israeli forces from the West Bank, and takes note with satisfaction of the commencement of the negotiations on the final settlement;

4. *Calls upon* the concerned parties, the co-sponsors of the peace process and other interested parties, as well as the entire international community, to exert all the necessary efforts and initiatives to ensure the continuity and success of the peace process and its conclusion by the time agreed upon;

5. *Stresses* the need for:

(*a*) The realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination;

(*b*) The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967;

6. *Also stresses* the need for resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees in conformity with its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948;

7. *Urges* Member States to expedite the provision of economic and technical assistance to the Palestinian people during this critical period;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance for the United Nations to play a more active and expanded role in the current peace process and in the implementation of the Declaration of Principles;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with the parties concerned, and in consultation with the

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[129] A/54/457–S/1999/1050; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1999*, document S/1999/1050.

[130] A/48/486–S/26560, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*, document S/26560.

[131] A/51/889–S/1997/357, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-second Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1997*, document S/1997/357.

Security Council, for the promotion of peace in the region and to submit progress reports on developments in this matter.

RESOLUTION 54/64

Adopted at the 70th plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.37 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Lithuania, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Qatar, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Ukraine, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam

54/64. Multilingualism

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/11 of 2 November 1995 and 52/23 of 25 November 1997,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[157]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to appoint a senior Secretariat official as coordinator of questions relating to multilingualism throughout the Secretariat;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-sixth session a comprehensive report on the implementation of resolution 50/11 and of the present resolution;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Multilingualism".

RESOLUTION 54/65

Adopted at the 70th plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.48 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

54/65. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

The General Assembly,

Noting that on 10 September 1996 the General Assembly, by its resolution 50/245, adopted the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[158]

Noting also that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty was opened for signature at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 24 September 1996,

Noting further that on 19 November 1996 the Meeting of States Signatories of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty established the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, which has the status of an international organization, for the purpose of carrying out the necessary preparations for the effective implementation of the Treaty,

Reaffirming the decision on an agreement to regulate the relationship between the Preparatory Commission and the United Nations, adopted by the Preparatory Commission on 22 April 1999,

Invites the Secretary-General to take the appropriate steps to conclude with the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty an agreement to regulate the relationship between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission, to be submitted to the General Assembly for its approval.

RESOLUTION 54/91

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 140 to 2, with 14 abstentions,[159] on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.50 and Add.1, sponsored by: Antigua and Barbuda, Bolivia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Fiji, Grenada, Mali, Marshall Islands, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Saint Lucia, Solomon Islands, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago and Vanuatu

54/91. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Special Committee with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[160]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all its subsequent resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration, most recently resolution 53/68 of 3 December 1998, as well as the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Recognizing that the eradication of colonialism is one of the priorities of the Organization for the decade that began in 1990,

Reconfirming the need to take measures to eliminate colonialism by 2000, as called for in its resolution 43/47 of 22 November 1988,

Reiterating its conviction of the need for the eradication of colonialism as well as racial discrimination and violations of basic human rights,

Noting with satisfaction the achievements of the Special Committee in contributing to the effective and complete implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Stressing the importance of the participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

Noting with concern that the non-participation of certain administering Powers has adversely affected the implementation of the mandate and work of the Special Committee,

Noting with satisfaction the cooperation and active participation of some administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee, as well as their continued readiness to receive United Nations visiting missions in the Territories under their administration,

Noting that the other administering Powers have now agreed to work informally with the Special Committee,

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[157] A/54/478.

[158] A/50/1027.

[159] For details, see annex II.

[160] A/54/23 (Parts I–III). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23*.

Bearing in mind that the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism will end in the year 2000, and that it is necessary to examine ways to ascertain the wishes of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the basis of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization,

Taking note of the consultations and agreements between the parties concerned in some Non-Self-Governing Territories and the action undertaken by the Secretary-General in relation to certain Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Aware of the pressing need of newly independent and emerging States for assistance from the United Nations and its system of organizations in the economic, social and other fields,

Aware also of the pressing need of many of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, including in particular small island Territories, for economic, social and other assistance from the United Nations and the organizations of its system,

Taking special note of the fact that the Special Committee held a Caribbean regional seminar to review the situation in the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly their political evolution towards self-determination for the year 2000 and beyond, at Castries, Saint Lucia, from 25 to 27 May 1999,[136]

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 1514 (XV) and all other resolutions on decolonization, including its resolution 43/47, in which it declared the decade that began in 1990 as the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon the administering Powers, in accordance with those resolutions, to take all necessary steps to enable the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories concerned to exercise fully as soon as possible their right to self-determination, including independence;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;[137]

3. *Reaffirms once again* that the existence of colonialism in any form or manifestation, including economic exploitation, is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;[138]

4. *Reaffirms its determination* to continue to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism and the faithful observance by all States of the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

5. *Affirms once again its support* for the aspirations of the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

6. *Approves* the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples covering its work during 1999, including the programme of work envisaged for 2000;[139]

7. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee to develop before the end of 2000 a constructive programme of work with respect to the Non-Self-Governing Territories to implement the resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

8. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out those actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination, including independence, and in particular:

(*a*) To formulate specific proposals to bring about an end to colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

(*b*) To continue to examine the implementation by Member States of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

(*c*) To continue to pay special attention to the small Territories, including through the dispatch of visiting missions, and to recommend to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

(*d*) To develop a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories before the end of 2000 to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(*e*) To take all necessary steps to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

(*f*) To conduct seminars, as appropriate, for the purpose of receiving and disseminating information on the work of the Special Committee, and to facilitate participation by the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in those seminars;

(*g*) To observe annually the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, beginning on 25 May;[140]

9. *Calls upon* all States, in particular the administering Powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to give effect within their respective spheres of competence to the recommendations of the Special Committee for the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that all economic activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration do not adversely affect the interests

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[136] A/54/23 (Part I), chap. II, annex. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23*.

[137] A/54/219.

[138] Resolution 217 A (III).

[139] A/54/23 (Part I), chap. I, sect. J. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23*.

[140] Resolution 2911 (XXVII).

of the peoples but instead promote development, and to assist them in the exercise of their right to self-determination;

11. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable rights of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources, including land, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to take all necessary steps to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

12. *Reiterates* that military activities and arrangements by administering Powers in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration should not run counter to the rights and interests of the peoples of the Territories concerned, especially their right to self-determination, including independence, and calls upon the administering Powers concerned to terminate such activities and to eliminate the remaining military bases in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

13. *Urges* all States, directly and through their action in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to provide moral and material assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and requests that the administering Powers take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economies of those Territories;

14. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations visiting missions to the Territories are an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories as well as the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants, and calls upon the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to facilitate visiting missions to the Territories;

15. *Calls upon* the administering Powers that have not participated formally in the work of the Special Committee to do so at its session in 2000;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue to do so, as appropriate, after they exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Committee with the facilities and services required for the implementation of the present resolution, as well as of the other resolutions and decisions on decolonization adopted by the General Assembly and the Special Committee.

RESOLUTION 54/92

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 149 to 2, with 3 abstentions,[141] on the basis of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (A/54/23)

54/92. Dissemination of information on decolonization

The General Assembly,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the dissemination of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization,[142]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, in particular General Assembly resolution 53/69 of 3 December 1998,

Recognizing the need for flexible, practical and innovative approaches towards reviewing the options of self-determination for the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories with a view to achieving complete decolonization by 2000,

Reiterating the importance of dissemination of information as an instrument for furthering the aims of the Declaration, and mindful of the role of world public opinion in effectively assisting the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to achieve self-determination,

Recognizing the role played by the administering Powers in transmitting information to the Secretary-General in accordance with the terms of Article 73 *(e)* of the Charter of the United Nations,

Aware of the role of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization,

1. *Approves* the activities in the field of dissemination of information on decolonization undertaken by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat;

2. *Considers it important* to continue its efforts to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with particular emphasis on the options of self-determination available for the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Requests* the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information to take into account the suggestions of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue their efforts to take measures through all the media available, including publications, radio and television, as well as the Internet, to give publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and, *inter alia*:

(a) To continue to collect, prepare and disseminate, particularly to the Territories, basic material on the issue of self-determination of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(b) To seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;

(c) To maintain a working relationship with the appropriate regional and intergovernmental organizations, particularly in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, by holding periodic consultations and exchanging information;

(d) To encourage the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(e) To report to the Special Committee on measures taken in the implementation of the present resolution;

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[141] For details, see annex II.

[142] A/54/23 (Part II), chap. III. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23*

4. *Requests* all States, including the administering Powers, to continue to extend their cooperation in the dissemination of information referred to in paragraph 2 above;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee to follow the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 54/93

Adopted at the 72nd plenary meeting, on 7 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.51 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela and Viet Nam

54/93. Special session of the General Assembly in 2001 for follow-up to the World Summit for Children

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/186 of 16 December 1996, in which it decided to convene in 2001 a special session to review the achievement of the goals of the World Summit for Children, and its resolution 53/193 of 15 December 1998,

Recalling also the report of the Secretary-General on progress on the implementation of the World Declaration and the Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children,[143]

Recognizing the importance of achieving universal ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[144]

1. *Decides* to convene the special session of the General Assembly to review the achievement of the goals of the World Summit for Children at the highest possible level;

2. *Invites* the participation of heads of State and Government in the special session;

3. *Decides* that the special session shall be convened in the month of September 2001;

4. *Also decides* that the special session, while reviewing the achievements in the implementation and results of the World Declaratation on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s,[145] will undertake a renewed commitment and consider future action for children in the next decade;

5. *Recognizes* the importance of a participatory process at the national, regional and international levels with a view, *inter alia*, to establishing partnerships between a broad range of actors, including children and youth, in order to raise momentum for children's rights and needs;

6. *Decides* to establish an open-ended preparatory committee, also open to States members of the specialized agencies, to address organizational issues, including the form, the participation of a broad range of relevant actors and the agenda, and to prepare for the outcome of the special session;

7. *Strongly encourages* the full and effective participation of Member States, and invites the heads of State and Government to consider assigning personal representatives to the preparatory committee;

8. *Requests* the preparatory committee to convene one organizational session on 7 and 8 February 2000 and one substantive session from 30 May to 2 June 2000 and to propose to the General Assembly its requirements for further meetings in 2001;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the support of the United Nations Children's Fund, to assist the preparatory committee in providing substantive input to the preparatory process and at the special session, including a report on emerging issues to be considered at the substantive session of the preparatory committee in 2000;

10. *Invites* all other relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the funds and programmes, specialized agencies and the international financial institutions, actively to participate in the preparations for the special session;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure an effective and coordinated system-wide response to the preparations for the special session;

12. *Invites* the Committee on the Rights of the Child to provide its input to the preparatory process and at the special session;

13. *Invites* all relevant experts, including the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the impact of armed conflict on children and the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, to participate in the preparatory process and the special session in accordance with the established practice;

14. *Recognizes* the important role of all relevant actors, including non-governmental organizations, in implementing the Plan of Action, and stresses the need for their active involvement in the preparatory process, including in the preparatory committee, and at the special session, modalities for which will be addressed by the preparatory committee;

15. *Invites* Governments and relevant organizations, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, as well as regional and subregional organizations, to undertake reviews of progress achieved since the World Summit for Children, and encourages appropriate national, regional and international preparatory activities with a view to contributing to the preparations for the special session and building partnerships for and with children;

16. *Reaffirms* its requests to the Secretary-General to submit to the special session, through the preparatory committee, a review of the implementation and results of the World Declaration and Plan of Action, including appropriate recommendations for further action, which also elaborates on the best practices noted and obstacles encountered in the implementation as well as on measures to overcome those obstacles;

17. *Decides* to invite States members of the specialized agencies that are not Members of the United Nations to participate in the work of the special session in the capacity of observers;

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[143] A/53/186.

[144] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[145] A/45/625, annex.

18. *Stresses* the importance of the full participation of the least developed countries in the special session and the preparations for the session, and invites Governments to make appropriate contributions to a trust fund to be established by the Secretary-General for that purpose;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to assist national Governments, at their request, in their assessment of and reporting on the implementation of the Plan of Action;

20. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund, to mount a public information programme to raise awareness of children's needs and rights and of the special session, its objectives and significance, and encourages Governments to do the same on a national basis;

21. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report during the main part of the fifty-fifth session on the state of the preparations for the special session;

22. *Decides* to include an item in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session entitled "Special session of the General Assembly in 2001 for follow-up to the World Summit for Children".

RESOLUTION 54/94

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.38 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Gabon, Guinea and Zambia

54/94. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity,[146]

Recalling the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations on regional arrangements or agencies, which set forth the basic principles governing their activities and establishing the legal framework for cooperation with the United Nations in the area of the maintenance of international peace and security, as well as resolution 49/57 of 9 December 1994, the annex to which contains the Declaration on the Enhancement of Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Arrangements or Agencies in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security,

Recalling also the agreement of 15 November 1965 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity[147] as updated and signed on 9 October 1990 by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity,[148]

Recalling further all its resolutions on the enhancement of cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, including resolution 53/91 of 7 December 1998,

Recalling that, in its resolutions 46/20 of 26 November 1991, 47/148 of 18 December 1992 and 48/25 of 29 November 1993, it, *inter alia*, urged the Secretary-General and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system to continue to extend their support for the establishment of the African Economic Community,

Recalling also its resolution 48/214 of 23 December 1993 on the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,[149]

Taking note of the Algiers Declaration and the declarations and decisions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, held at Algiers from 12 to 14 July 1999,[150]

Taking note also of the decisions contained in the Sirte Declaration adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its fourth extraordinary session, held at Sirte, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on 8 and 9 September 1999,[151]

Mindful of the need for continued and closer cooperation between the United Nations and its specialized agencies and the Organization of African Unity in the field of peace and security and in the political, economic, social, technical, cultural and administrative fields,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[152]

Noting that the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution in Africa of the Organization of African Unity is steadily developing its capacity in conflict prevention and resolution,

Noting also the efforts of the Organization of African Unity, and the assistance of the United Nations, to promote the peaceful settlement of disputes and conflicts and the continuation of the process of democratization in Africa,

Welcoming decision CM/Dec.482 (LXX) of 1999, adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, concerning the establishment of a special committee on children and armed conflict, in the light of the gravity of the situation of children affected by armed conflict,[153]

Deeply concerned that, despite the policies of reform being implemented by African countries, their economic situation remains critical and African recovery and development continue to be severely hindered by, *inter alia*, the persistence of lower commodity prices and the heavy debt burden, and they are substantially affected by the levels of official development assistance and foreign direct investment, as well as the ongoing conflicts in some regions of the continent,

Aware of the efforts being made by the Organization of African Unity and its member States in the area of economic integration and of the need to accelerate the process of implementation of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community,[154]

Recalling the convening of the Organization of African Unity Ministerial Conference on Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Africa at Khartoum, on 13 and 14 December 1998,

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[146] A/54/484.

[147] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 548, No. 614 (Part II).

[148] Ibid., vol. 1580, No. 1044 (Part II).

[149] Resolution 46/151, annex.

[150] A/54/424, annex II.

[151] A/54/621, annex.

[152] A/52/871–S/1998/318; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1998*, document S/1998/318.

[153] See A/54/424, annex I.

[154] A/46/651.

Acknowledging the assistance already rendered by the international community to refugees, internally displaced persons and host countries in Africa,

Stressing that the gravity of the situation of refugees and internally displaced persons and of host countries in Africa requires urgent and increased international assistance,

Recalling the convening by the Organization of African Unity of the first Ministerial Conference on Human Rights in Africa at Grand-Baie, Mauritius, from 12 to 16 April 1999,

Recognizing the importance of developing and maintaining a culture of peace, tolerance and harmonious relationships based on economic development, democratic principles, good governance, social justice and international cooperation,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity[146] and of his efforts to strengthen that cooperation and to implement the relevant resolutions;

2. *Notes* the contribution made by the United Nations Liaison Office with the Organization of African Unity since its establishment in April 1998;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the continued and increasing participation of the Organization of African Unity in the work of the United Nations, its organs and specialized agencies, and its constructive contribution to that work;

4. *Calls upon* the United Nations organs, in particular the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, to enhance the involvement of the Organization of African Unity in all their activities concerning Africa;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* for the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[152] and encourages the early implementation of the recommendations contained therein by the United Nations, its organs and specialized agencies, in their respective areas of competence, as well as by Member States;

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations to enhance its cooperation, coordination and exchange of information with the Organization of African Unity, in the following areas:

(*a*) Prevention of conflict through the promotion of a culture of peace, tolerance and harmonious relations in Africa;

(*b*) Peaceful settlement of disputes and maintenance of international peace and security in Africa, as provided for under Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations;

7. *Invites* the United Nations to intensify its assistance to the Organization of African Unity in strengthening the institutional and operational capacity of its Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution in Africa, in particular in the following areas:

(*a*) Development of its early-warning system;

(*b*) Technical assistance and training of civilian and military personnel, including a staff exchange programme;

(*c*) Exchange and coordination of information, including between the early-warning systems of the two organizations;

(*d*) Logistical support, including in the area of demining;

(*e*) Mobilization of financial support, including through the trust funds of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity;

8. *Urges* the United Nations to encourage donor countries, in consultation with the Organization of African Unity, to provide adequate funding and training for African countries in their efforts to enhance their peacekeeping capabilities, with a view to enabling those countries to participate actively in peacekeeping operations within the framework of the United Nations;

9. *Calls upon* all Member States and regional and international organizations, in particular those of the United Nations system, as well as non-governmental organizations, to provide appropriate assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons, as well as to the African host countries, and to ensure the security and neutrality of refugee camps and settlements;

10. *Encourages* the United Nations, through the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the impact of armed conflict on children, to assist the Organization of African Unity and its special committee on children and armed conflict in their efforts to ensure the protection and the welfare of children affected by conflicts in Africa;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the assistance provided by the United Nations and its agencies to African countries in the context of strengthening the democratization process, and calls for the continuation of this support in the areas of education for democracy, election observation, human rights, freedom and the rule of law, including technical support to the African Commission on Human and People's Rights;

12. *Welcomes* the priority accorded by the United Nations system to African development and, in this regard, stresses the need to continue and increase economic and technical assistance to African countries;

13. *Urges* the Secretary-General, Member States and regional and international organizations, in particular those of the United Nations system, to support the strengthening of the African Economic Community;

14. *Requests* the agencies of the United Nations system working in Africa to include in their programmes at the national, subregional and regional levels activities that will enhance African regional economic cooperation and integration;

15. *Calls upon* the United Nations agencies to intensify the coordination of their regional programmes in Africa in order to enhance linkages among them, ensure the effective harmonization of their programmes with those of the African regional and subregional economic organizations and create a positive environment for investment;

16. *Emphasizes* the urgent need to implement effectively the recommendations arising from the mid-term review of the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;[155]

17. *Invites* the Secretary-General to encourage the closer involvement of the Organization of African Unity in the implementation, follow-up and evaluation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and beyond, including the conduct of the final review of the implementation of the New Agenda in 2002;

18. *Calls upon* the international community to support and enhance the capacity of African countries to take advantage of the opportunities offered by globalization and to overcome the challenges it poses, as a means of ensuring sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

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[155] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 48* (A/51/48).

19. *Invites* the Secretary-General to develop new effective strategies for the implementation of the recommendations of the annual meeting of the secretariats of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations, held from 6 to 8 May 1998, as agreed upon by the two organizations in their follow-up meeting held on 21 September 1999;

20. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to ensure the effective and equitable representation of African men and women at senior and policy levels at their respective headquarters and in their regional field of operations;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/95

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.54 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Venezuela

54/95. Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in its annex, other relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and agreed conclusions 1998/1 of the humanitarian affairs segment of the substantive session of 1998 of the Council,[156]

Noting the decision by the Economic and Social Council to hold further consultations on ways and means to strengthen its role by enhancing its work in the humanitarian field,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary General,[157]

Welcoming the progress made by the Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations,

Noting the efforts made by the Emergency Relief Coordinator and the members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to implement fully the recommendations set forth in agreed conclusions 1998/1,

1. *Welcomes* the holding of the second humanitarian affairs segment by the Economic and Social Council during its substantive session of 1999 and agreed conclusions 1999/1 adopted at that session;[158]

2. *Calls upon* relevant organizations of the United Nations system, other relevant international organizations, Governments and non-governmental organizations to cooperate with the Secretary-General and the Emergency Relief Coordinator to ensure timely implementation of and follow-up to agreed conclusions 1999/1;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of discussion of humanitarian policies and activities in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;

4. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to continue to consider ways to enhance further the humanitarian affairs segment of its future sessions;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, in early 2000, concrete proposals on how to enhance the functioning and utilization of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund, including, as necessary, amendments to its terms of reference;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, through the 2000 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, including the implementation of and follow-up to agreed conclusions 1999/1.

RESOLUTIONS 54/96 A to K

A

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.49 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Colombia, Croatia, Egypt, Georgia, Greece, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Norway, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United States of America and Uzbekistan

B

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.53 and Add.1, sponsored by: Cameroon, Gabon and India

C

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.56 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Angola, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, France, Gabon, India, Italy, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Namibia, Oman and Sudan

D

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.57 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Cameroon, Cape Verde, China, Djibouti, Ethiopia, India, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritania, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates and Yemen

E

Adopted at the 80th plenary meeting, on 15 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.29/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Spain and Venezuela

F

Adopted at the 80th plenary meeting, on 15 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.66 and Add.1, sponsored by: Belarus, Greece and Russian Federation

G

Adopted at the 80th plenary meeting, on 15 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.67 and Add.1, sponsored by: Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Hungary, Romania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine

H

Adopted at the 80th plenary meeting, on 15 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.68 and Add.1, sponsored by: Angola, Australia,

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[156] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum and addendum (A/53/3 and Corr.1 and Add.1), chap. VII, para. 5.

[157] A/54/154–E/1999/94 and Add.1.

[158] A/54/3, chap. VI, para. 5. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1).

Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America

I

Adopted at the 80th plenary meeting, on 15 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.69 and Add.1, sponsored by: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Cameroon, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Fiji, France, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United States of America and Venezuela

J

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.72/Rev.1, sponsored by: Algeria and Cameroon

K

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.76 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Gabon, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Ireland, Italy, Madagascar, Mexico, Namibia, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yemen

54/96. Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

A

EMERGENCY INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR PEACE, NORMALCY AND REHABILITATION IN TAJIKISTAN

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/30 J of 25 April 1997, 52/169 I of 16 December 1997 and 53/1 K of 7 December 1998,

Recalling also Security Council resolutions 1113 (1997) of 12 June 1997, 1128 (1997) of 12 September 1997, 1138 (1997) of 14 November 1997, 1167 (1998) of 14 May 1998, 1206 (1998) of 12 November 1998, 1240 (1999) of 15 May 1999 and 1274 (1999) of 12 November 1999,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[159]

Welcoming the significant progress made by the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan,[160]

Commending the efforts of the United Nations, in particular those of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Tajikistan and of the personnel of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan, in assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement,

Bearing in mind the close interrelationship between ensuring peace and achieving national reconciliation in Tajikistan and the ability of the country to meet the humanitarian needs of its people and to take effective steps towards the rapid revitalization of the economy, and reaffirming the urgent need to assist Tajikistan in its efforts to restore basic services and the infrastructure of the country,

Noting that, despite progress in both the peace process and economic reform and improvements in security, significant humanitarian needs continue to exist throughout Tajikistan,

Recognizing that until the economy is able to support the Tajik population and the peace process has been fully consolidated, humanitarian operations will remain a critical factor in ensuring stability in Tajikistan,

Expressing regret that, despite the importance of humanitarian operations for contributing to peace and stability, donor response to both the 1998 and the 1999 consolidated inter-agency appeals has been disappointing,

Stressing that international funding for humanitarian operations is particularly important since such operations remain the principal means by which hundreds of thousands of Tajiks meet their basic needs,

Noting with concern the lack of support for food assistance and health programmes, which aim to save lives and must receive immediate funding if social catastrophe is to be avoided in Tajikistan,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[159] and endorses the observations and recommendations set out therein;

2. *Welcomes* the efforts aimed at achieving peace and national reconciliation in Tajikistan, encourages the parties to ensure the full implementation of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan,[160] and encourages the Commission on National Reconciliation to continue its efforts, in particular those aimed at the institution of a broad dialogue among the various political forces in the country in the interest of restoration and strengthening of civil accord in Tajikistan;

3. *Recognizes* that comprehensive international support remains essential to ensuring that Tajikistan can continue on the path of peace and national reconciliation;

4. *Welcomes with appreciation* the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General in drawing the attention of the international community to the acute humanitarian problems of Tajikistan and in mobilizing assistance for the implementation of the General Agreement and the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the country;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to the States, the United Nations, the World Bank and other intergovernmental organizations and all relevant humanitarian organizations, agencies and non-governmental organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross, that have responded and continue to respond positively to the humanitarian needs of Tajikistan;

6. *Encourages* Member States and others concerned to continue assistance to alleviate the urgent humanitarian needs of Tajikistan and to offer support to that country for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of its economy;

7. *Warmly welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to continue the United Nations humanitarian programme in Tajikistan by issuing a consolidated inter-agency appeal for humanitarian assistance to Tajikistan for 2000 as a strategic document that will guide a gradual transition to a more development-oriented focus, and invites Member States to fund programmes included in the appeal;

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[159] A/54/294.

[160] A/52/219–S/1997/510, annex I; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-second Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1997*, document S/1997/510.

8. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to re-evaluate in 2000 all humanitarian assistance activities with a view to addressing longer-term developmental issues;

9. *Urges* the parties to ensure security and freedom of movement of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, as well as the safety and security of their premises, equipment and supplies;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to give special attention, in the dialogue with the multilateral lending institutions, to the humanitarian implications of their adjustment programmes in Tajikistan;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the humanitarian situation in Tajikistan and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-fifth session the question of the situation in Tajikistan under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance".

B

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND RECONSTRUCTION OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/169 A of 16 December 1997 and 53/1 L of 7 December 1998,

Recalling also Security Council resolutions 1234 (1999) of 9 April 1999, 1258 (1999) of 6 August 1999, 1273 (1999) of 5 November 1999 and 1279 (1999) of 30 November 1999 on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Welcoming the signing in Lusaka of the Ceasefire Agreement[161] on the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo by all parties involved, which represents a viable basis for a resolution of the conflict in the country,

Expressing its concern at the alleged violations of the Ceasefire Agreement, and urging all parties to refrain from any declarations or action that could jeopardize the peace process,

Alarmed at the plight of the civilian population throughout the country, and calling for its protection,

Gravely concerned at the deteriorating economic and social situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular in the eastern Congo, and at the effect of the continued fighting on the inhabitants of the country,

Reaffirming the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and all States in the region,

Urging all parties to respect and protect human rights and respect international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions of 1949[162] and the additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[163]

Deeply concerned about the continued extensive destruction of life and property as well as the severe damage to infrastructure and the environment suffered by the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Bearing in mind that the Democratic Republic of the Congo also suffers from the problems encountered by a country that has received thousands of refugees from neighbouring countries,

Recalling that the Democratic Republic of the Congo is a least developed country with severe economic and social problems arising from its weak economic infrastructure and aggravated by the ongoing conflict,

Bearing in mind the close interrelationship between ensuring peace and security and the ability of the country to meet the humanitarian needs of its people and to take effective steps towards the rapid revitalization of the economy, and reaffirming the urgent need to assist the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of its damaged economy and in its efforts to restore basic services and the infrastructure of the country,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[164]

2. *Calls* for the full implementation of the Ceasefire Agreement[161] on the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo by all its signatories;

3. *Calls upon* all parties concerned in the region to create the conditions necessary for the speedy and peaceful resolution of the crisis, and urges all parties to engage in a process of political dialogue and negotiation without delay;

4. *Encourages* the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to pursue sound macroeconomic policies and to promote good governance and the rule of law, and urges the Government and the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to exert all efforts for economic recovery and reconstruction despite the ongoing armed conflict;

5. *Renews its invitation* to the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to cooperate with the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other organizations in addressing the need for rehabilitation and reconstruction, stresses the need for the Government to assist and protect the civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons within the territory of that country regardless of their origin, and reaffirms the need for respect for the provisions of international humanitarian law, in particular the safety of humanitarian personnel, and safe and unhindered access to all affected populations;

6. *Renews its urgent appeal* to the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes to continue to keep under consideration the special needs of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and in that regard welcomes, *inter alia*, the authorization given to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund to continue to approve assistance to the Democratic Republic of the Congo on a project-by-project basis;

7. *Invites* Governments to continue to provide support to the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to respond in a timely manner to the United Nations consolidated appeal for the Great Lakes region for 2000;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

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[161] S/1999/815, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999*.

[162] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[163] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[164] A/54/278.

(*a*) To continue to consult urgently with regional leaders, in coordination with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, about ways to bring about a peaceful and durable solution to the conflict;

(*b*) To continue to consult with regional leaders in coordination with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity in order to convene, when appropriate, an international conference on peace, security and development in the Great Lakes region, under the auspices of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, to address the problems of the region in a comprehensive manner;

(*c*) To keep under review the economic situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo with a view to promoting participation in and support for a programme of financial and material assistance to the country in order to enable it to address its urgent need for economic recovery and reconstruction;

(*d*) To submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the actions taken pursuant to the present resolution.

C

ASSISTANCE FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF DJIBOUTI

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/1 J of 7 December 1998 and its previous resolutions on economic assistance to Djibouti,

Recalling also the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries on 14 September 1990,[165] as well as the mutual commitments undertaken on that occasion and the importance attached to the follow-up to that Conference,

Recalling further agreed conclusions 1999/1 adopted by the Economic and Social Council at the humanitarian segment of its substantive session of 1999,[166]

Conscious that Djibouti is included in the list of least developed countries and that it is ranked 157th out of the 174 countries studied in the *Human Development Report 1999*,[167]

Noting that the economic and social development efforts of Djibouti are constrained by the extremes of the local climate, in particular cyclical droughts and torrential rains and floods, such as those that occurred in October and November 1997, and that the implementation of reconstruction and development programmes requires the deployment of substantial resources which exceed the capacity of the country,

Emphasizing that there is an urgent need to provide financial support in the areas of demobilization, reconstruction and rehabilitation of the regions affected by civil strife, with a view to strengthening peace and stability in the country,

Noting that the situation in Djibouti has been made worse by the deteriorating situation in the Horn of Africa, in particular in Somalia, and noting also the presence of tens of thousands of refugees and persons displaced from their countries, which has placed serious strains on the fragile economic, social and administrative infrastructure of Djibouti and caused security problems in the country, in particular in the city of Djibouti,

Noting with satisfaction that the Government of Djibouti is continuing to implement a structural adjustment programme, and convinced of the necessity to support that financial recovery programme and to take effective measures to alleviate the consequences, in particular the social consequences, of that adjustment policy, so that the country may achieve lasting economic results,

Noting with gratitude the support provided to relief and rehabilitation operations by various countries and by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[168]

2. *Declares its solidarity* with the Government and the people of Djibouti, who continue to face critical challenges owing, in particular, to the scarcity of natural resources, harsh climatic conditions and the continuing critical situation in the Horn of Africa;

3. *Notes with concern* the cyclical drought phenomenon in Djibouti, including the current severe drought that is wreaking a major humanitarian disaster upon tens of thousands of people, particularly those who are vulnerable, and requests the international community to respond urgently to the appeal launched by the Government;

4. *Encourages* the Government of Djibouti, despite difficult economic and regional situations, to continue its serious efforts towards the consolidation of democracy;

5. *Notes with satisfaction* the implementation of a structural adjustment programme by Djibouti and, in that context, appeals to all Governments, international financial institutions, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to respond adequately to the financial and material needs of the country;

6. *Considers* that the process of demobilization, reintegration and employment of demobilized soldiers is essential not only for national rehabilitation, but also for the success of agreements with the international financial institutions and for the consolidation of peace, and that it requires substantial resources which exceed the capacity of the country;

7. *Expresses its gratitude* to the States and intergovernmental organizations that have already fulfilled their pledges at the round table on Djibouti, held in Geneva on 29 and 30 May 1997;

8. *Also expresses its gratitude* to the intergovernmental organizations and especially to the United Nations Development Programme, as well as the other funds and programmes of the United Nations system, for their contributions to the national rehabilitation of Djibouti, and invites them to continue their efforts;

9. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continued efforts to make the international community aware of the difficulties faced by Djibouti;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, in close cooperation with the Government of Djibouti, his efforts to mobilize resources necessary for an effective programme of financial, technical and material assistance to Djibouti;

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[165] A/CONF.147/18, part one.

[166] A/54/3, chap. VI, para. 5. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1).

[167] Published for the United Nations Development Programme by Oxford University Press, New York, 1999.

[168] A/54/153–E/1999/93.

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the progress made with regard to economic assistance to Djibouti and the implementation of the present resolution.

D

ASSISTANCE FOR HUMANITARIAN RELIEF AND THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION OF SOMALIA

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/206 of 20 December 1988, 44/178 of 19 December 1989, 45/229 of 21 December 1990, 46/176 of 19 December 1991, 47/160 of 18 December 1992, 48/201 of 21 December 1993, 49/21 L of 20 December 1994, 50/58 G of 20 December 1995, 51/30 G of 13 December 1996, 52/169 L of 16 December 1997 and 53/1 M of 8 December 1998 as well as the resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council on emergency assistance to Somalia,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 733 (1992) of 23 January 1992 and all subsequent relevant resolutions, in which the Council, *inter alia*, urged all parties, movements and factions in Somalia to facilitate the efforts of the United Nations, its specialized agencies and humanitarian organizations to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the affected population in Somalia, and reiterated the call for the full respect of the security and safety of the personnel of those organizations and guarantee of their complete freedom of movement in and around Mogadishu and other parts of Somalia,

Noting the cooperation between the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States, the European Union, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the countries members of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and others in their efforts to resolve the humanitarian, security and political crisis in Somalia,

Noting with appreciation the continued efforts made by the Secretary-General to assist the Somali people in their efforts to promote peace, stability and national reconciliation,

Noting with concern that the absence of central authority and effective civil institutions that characterizes Somalia continues to impede sustained comprehensive development, and that, while the environment has become conducive to some reconstruction and development-oriented work in certain parts of the country, the humanitarian and security situation has remained fragile in other parts,

Welcoming the joint strategy for targeted assistance of the United Nations system focusing on rehabilitation and reconstruction of infrastructure and on sustainable community-based activities, and reaffirming the importance it attaches to the need for effective coordination and cooperation among the United Nations agencies and their partners,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[160]

Deeply appreciative of the humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation support rendered by a number of States to alleviate the hardship and suffering of the affected Somali population,

Recognizing that, while the humanitarian situation remains fragile in some parts of Somalia, there is a need to continue the ongoing rehabilitation and reconstruction process, in those parts of the country where peace and security prevail, alongside the national reconciliation process, without prejudice to the provision of emergency relief assistance wherever and whenever required, as security allows,

Noting with appreciation that the prospects for humanitarian, rehabilitation and development activities have been more favourable in some parts of the country, owing to the formation of stronger local administrative structures which are able to take responsibility for meeting humanitarian needs, with the presence and support of the United Nations system,

Noting also with appreciation the efforts of the United Nations system aimed at working directly with Somali communities, whenever possible, in the absence of a recognized national Government, and welcoming the continued focus of the United Nations, in partnership with Somali elders, other local leaders and skilled local counterparts at the grass-roots level and non-governmental organizations, on a programme of assistance combining humanitarian and developmental approaches, given the varying conditions in different areas,

Re-emphasizing the importance of implementing further its resolution 47/160 to rehabilitate basic social and economic services at local and regional levels throughout the country,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to all States and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have responded to the appeals of the Secretary-General and others by extending assistance to Somalia;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continuing and tireless efforts to mobilize assistance to the Somali people;

3. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States, the European Union, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the countries members of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and others to resolve the situation in Somalia;

4. *Also welcomes* the strategy of the United Nations focusing on the implementation of community-based interventions aimed at rebuilding local infrastructures and increasing the self-reliance of the local population, and the ongoing efforts by the United Nations agencies, their Somali counterparts and their partner organizations to establish and maintain close coordination and cooperation mechanisms available for the implementation of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the holistic and prioritized approach of the United Nations system to addressing the continuing crisis in some parts of Somalia, while making long-term commitments to rehabilitation, recovery and development activities in more stable parts;

6. *Emphasizes* the principle that the Somali people, in particular at the local level, have the primary responsibility for their own development and for the sustainability of rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance programmes, and reaffirms the importance it attaches to the creation of workable arrangements for collaboration between the United Nations system and its partner organizations and their Somali counterparts for the effective execution of rehabilitation and development activities in those parts of the country where peace and security prevail;

7. *Urges* all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to continue to implement further its resolution 47/160 in order to assist the Somali people to embark on the rehabilitation of basic social and economic services, as well as institution building aimed at the restoration of civil administration at the local level in all those parts of the country where peace and security prevail;

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[160] A/54/296.

8. *Appeals* to all the Somali parties concerned to seek peaceful means for resolving differences and to redouble their efforts to achieve national reconciliation that allows for transition from relief to reconstruction and development;

9. *Calls upon* all parties, movements and factions in Somalia to respect fully the security and safety of personnel of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and of non-governmental organizations, and to guarantee their complete freedom of movement throughout the country;

10. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize international humanitarian, rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance for Somalia;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to provide continuing and increased assistance in response to the United Nations Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance for Somalia covering the period from October 1999 to December 2000;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in view of the critical situation in Somalia, to take all necessary measures for the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

E

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO AND COOPERATION WITH THE ALLIANCE FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF CENTRAL AMERICA

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the resolutions in which it emphasizes and acknowledges the importance of international, bilateral and multilateral economic, financial and technical support, cooperation and assistance for peacekeeping and peace-building in Central America following the armed conflicts in the region, in particular its resolutions 49/21 I of 20 December 1994, 50/58 B of 12 December 1995, 50/132 of 20 December 1995 and 52/169 G of 16 December 1997, which provide a frame of reference for international assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America,[170] in support of national efforts to make the region a zone of peace, freedom, democracy and development,

Noting that, as the century draws to a close, the Central American countries have achieved significant progress towards the consolidation of democracy and good governance, the strengthening of civilian Governments, respect for human rights and the rule of law and the promotion of State and economic reforms, sustainable development and regional integration, reflecting the desire of the Central American peoples to live and prosper in a climate of peace and solidarity,

Stressing the importance and effectiveness of the commitments undertaken by the Central American Presidents at various regional presidential summits, in particular those which constitute the global framework for promoting and consolidating peace, democracy and sustainable human development in Central America,

Recognizing that hurricane Mitch, the worst disaster to strike the Central American region in this century, underscored the extreme vulnerability of the poorest sectors of the population, in particular women and children, which were the most severely affected, and the inadequacy of existing local and national institutions to deal with natural disasters,

Noting that the various natural phenomena which have affected the region are one of the factors that have put at risk the biodiversity of Central America,

Taking into consideration that, at the second Consultative Group Meeting for the Reconstruction and Transformation of Central America, co-hosted by the Inter-American Development Bank and the Government of Sweden and held in Stockholm from 25 to 28 May 1999, the Governments of the region, the principal donors and representatives of civil society renewed their commitment to democratic change and sustainable human development as the best means of reducing economic, social and ecological vulnerability to disasters, and looking forward to the next round of Consultative Group Meetings, to be held in Nicaragua and Honduras in February 2000,

Taking into account that the Governments of the region have designated the period 2000–2004 as the Quinquennium for the Reduction of Vulnerability to and the Impact of Natural Disasters in Central America and have adopted a strategic framework for the reduction of vulnerability and disasters in Central America, which contain guidelines for the elaboration, updating, improvement and development of regional plans for the reduction of vulnerability to and the impact of natural disasters, the integrated management and conservation of water resources and the prevention and control of forest fires,

Stressing that the achievement of the national priorities in the political, economic, social, cultural, environmental, public safety and regional integration fields, which are set out in the programme of the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America, is essential for reducing the region's vulnerability to natural disasters and for promoting sustainable human development,

Considering the necessity of ensuring the elimination of anti-personnel mines from Central American territory as well as the rehabilitation and reintegration of mine victims in their communities in order to restore normal conditions for the integral development of the region,

Recognizing the valuable and effective contribution made by the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and by the various governmental and non-governmental mechanisms, the donor community and the Consultative Group for the Reconstruction and Transformation of Central America and the importance of the political dialogue and cooperation taking place between the European Union and Central America and the joint initiative of the industrialized countries of the Group of Twenty-four and the Group of Three (Colombia, Mexico and Venezuela) in the progress made towards consolidating peace, democracy and the implementation of the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America,

Reaffirming the need to continue focusing attention on the situation in Central America with a view to overcoming the underlying causes of the armed conflicts which have impeded the region's development and avoiding a reversal of the achievements,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the reports of the Secretary-General on international assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America[171] and on collaborative efforts to assist Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama and progress made with the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts of the affected countries,[172] in particular their recommendations and conclusions;

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[170] See A/49/580–S/1994/1217, annex I; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1994*, document S/1994/1217.

[171] A/54/350.

[172] A/54/130–E/1999/72 and Rev.1.

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of supporting and strengthening the efforts of the Central American countries to implement the Strategic Framework for the Reduction of Vulnerability and Disasters in Central America, adopted by their Presidents in the Declaration of Guatemala II[173] on 19 October 1999, and the projects and programmes of the Quinquennium for the Reduction of Vulnerability to and the Impact of Natural Disasters in Central America, in accordance with the process of transformation and sustainable development for the region for the next millennium, which contain basic guidelines for the prevention and mitigation of damage, with special emphasis on the most vulnerable groups and sectors, as identified by gender-based levels of poverty and marginality;

3. *Notes* the efforts and achievements relating to mine clearance in Central America, despite the negative impact of hurricane Mitch, and appeals to the organs of the United Nations system, in particular the Mine Action Service of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat, and the Organization of American States as well as the international community to continue providing the material, technical and financial support needed by the Central American Governments to complete mine-clearance, mine-awareness and victim assistance activities in the region, in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and with the provisions of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[174] that relate to international cooperation and assistance;

4. *Stresses* the need for the international community to maintain its cooperation and assistance, including provision of financial resources, both bilateral and multilateral, with the Central American countries, to support the promotion of sustainable development and the consolidation of peace, freedom and democracy in the region;

5. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress achieved towards the implementation of the subregional cooperation programme in Central America of the United Nations Development Programme focusing on peace and democratic governance, strengthening of the rule of law, economic and social development and sustainable development, which was established in 1996;

6. *Recognizes* the importance for the subregion of the studies being undertaken by the United Nations Development Programme, in collaboration with its national and regional partners and with donors, in particular in the preparation of the forthcoming meeting of the Inter-American Development Bank Consultative Group on the regional aspects of the reconstruction and transformation of Central America, to be hosted by the Government of Spain in Madrid in 2000, which will seek to establish new relations of cooperation in pursuit of the objectives of the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America;

7. *Notes with satisfaction* the initiative to introduce the new and innovative approach of a Meso-American Biological Corridor, which is being developed with assistance from the United Nations Development Programme's own funds, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the German Agency for Technical Cooperation and the United States Agency for International Development, as an initiative with an innovative approach that seeks to conserve biodiversity, mitigate the effects of climate change and promote the sustainable development of rural communities, which will facilitate the establishment of a network of protected areas throughout Central America that will help to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters;

8. *Supports* the decision of the Central American Governments to concentrate their efforts on the implementation of updated programmes with strategies to achieve sustainable human development in previously determined priority areas, which help to consolidate peace and resolve social inequalities, extreme poverty and social explosion;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and all States, international financial institutions and regional and subregional organizations to continue providing the support needed to attain the objectives of the programme for the sustainable development of Central America, in particular those which are being pursued within the framework of the Quinquennium for the Reduction of Vulnerability to and the Impact of Natural Disasters in Central America;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-sixth session the question of international assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America.

F

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and reaffirming that humanitarian assistance should be provided in accordance with and with due respect for the guiding principles contained in the annex to that resolution,

Recalling also agreed conclusions 1999/1 of the Economic and Social Council[166] adopted at the humanitarian affairs segment of its substantive session of 1999, in particular the relevant paragraphs thereof,

Stressing the importance of an adequate United Nations presence in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,

Noting the efforts by the United Nations system to assess the situation in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, starting with the Inter-Agency Needs Assessment Mission dispatched by the Secretary-General to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia from 16 to 27 May 1999,

Taking note of the report prepared by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, entitled "Electricity and heating in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia: winter 1999–2000",[175]

Also taking note of the report entitled "The Kosovo conflict: consequences for the environment and human settlements",[176] prepared by the Joint United Nations Environment Programme and United Nations Centre for Human Settlements Balkans task force on environment and human settlements,

Taking further note of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro),

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[173] A/54/630, annex.

[174] See CD/1478.

[175] See www.reliefweb.int.

[176] UNEP/UNCH/(02)/K6.

Stressing, in this context, the need to prevent attacks on ethnic minorities which may lead to additional humanitarian needs,

Aware of the humanitarian requirements of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,

Bearing in mind that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has been affected by the problems caused by refugee flows from neighbouring countries and has a large number of internally displaced persons,

Deeply appreciative of the humanitarian assistance, and noting the rehabilitation support rendered by a number of States, international agencies and organizations and non-governmental organizations to alleviate the humanitarian needs of the affected population in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,

1. *Calls upon* all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide humanitarian assistance to alleviate the humanitarian needs of the affected population in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, especially during winter months, in particular bearing in mind the special situation of women, children and other vulnerable groups;

2. *Urges* the relevant authorities and the international community to support programmes to ensure that the humanitarian needs of refugees and internally displaced persons in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia are met and to support durable solutions to their plight, in particular voluntary repatriation and reintegration, and stresses the need to create conditions conducive for their safe return;

3. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize international humanitarian assistance for the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-fifth session, under the agenda item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

G

ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES AFFECTED BY THE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE BALKANS

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 52/169 H of 16 December 1997[177] and the conclusions contained therein,

Recalling agreed conclusions 1999/1 of the humanitarian affairs segment of the Economic and Social Council,[178] in particular the relevant paragraphs thereof,

Stressing the importance of the regional cooperation initiatives and assistance arrangements, such as the Process of Stability and Good-Neighbourliness in South-East Europe (Royaumont Initiative), the South-East European Cooperative Initiative, the South-East European Cooperation Process, the Central European Initiative and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation,

Welcoming the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, adopted in Cologne, Germany, on 10 June 1999,

Taking note of issue number 2 of the *Economic Survey of Europe, 1999*,[179] in particular the relevant chapters thereof,

Recalling its resolution 54/62 of 1 December 1999,

1. *Expresses concern* at the special economic problems confronting the Eastern European States affected by the developments in the Balkans, in particular their impact on regional trade and economic relations and on navigation along the Danube and on the Adriatic Sea;

2. *Welcomes* the support already provided by the international community, in particular by the European Union and other donors, to the affected States to assist them in coping with their special economic problems during the transition period following the lifting of the sanctions pursuant to Security Council resolution 1074 (1996) of 1 October 1996, as well as in the process of economic adjustment following the developments in the Balkans;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the effective implementation of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, the objective of which is to strengthen countries in South-Eastern Europe in their efforts to foster peace, democracy, respect for human rights and economic prosperity, in order to achieve stability in the whole region, and of its follow-up activities aimed, *inter alia*, at economic reconstruction, development and cooperation, including economic cooperation in the region and between the region and the rest of Europe;

4. *Invites* all States and the relevant international organizations, both within and outside the United Nations system, in particular the international financial institutions, to continue to take into account the special needs and situations of the affected States in providing support and assistance to their efforts for economic recovery, structural adjustment and development;

5. *Encourages* the affected States of the region to continue the process of multilateral regional cooperation in such fields as transport and infrastructure development, including the resumption of navigation on the Danube, as well as to foster conditions favourable to trade and investment in all the countries of the region;

6. *Invites* the relevant international organizations to take appropriate steps, consistent with the principle of efficient and effective procurement and with resolution 54/14 of 29 October 1999 on procurement reform, in order to broaden access for interested local and regional vendors and to facilitate their participation in the efforts for reconstruction, recovery and development of the region;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

H

ASSISTANCE FOR HUMANITARIAN RELIEF, REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT FOR EAST TIMOR

Recalling also the relevant Security Council resolutions and decisions on the situation in East Timor, in particular resolution 1272 (1999) of 25 October 1999,

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[177] A/54/396-S/1999/1000 and A/54/396/Add.1-S/1999/1000/Add.1; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999*, document S/1999/1000; and ibid., *Supplement for October, November and December 1999*, document S/1999/1000/Add.1.

[178] A/54/538.

[179] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.99.II.E.3.

Recalling further agreed conclusions 1998/1[99] and 1999/1[100] of the humanitarian affairs segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex to that resolution,

Recalling also the agreements of 5 May 1999 between Indonesia and Portugal, and between the United Nations, Indonesia and Portugal, on modalities and security arrangements for the popular consultation, welcoming the successful conduct of the popular consultation of the East Timorese people on 30 August 1999, taking note of its outcome, which began a process of transition under the authority of the United Nations towards independence, and welcoming the decision of the Indonesian People's Consultative Assembly on 19 October 1999 concerning East Timor,

Emphasizing the urgent need for humanitarian assistance to overcome the grave humanitarian situation resulting from violence and damage to property in East Timor and the large-scale displacement of East Timorese civilians, including large numbers of women and children,

1. *Welcomes* the contribution of Member States, the United Nations system, international organizations and non-governmental organizations in addressing the humanitarian assistance needs of the people of East Timor;

2. *Welcomes also* the establishment by Security Council resolution 1272 (1999) of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor, whose mandate includes the coordination and delivery of humanitarian, rehabilitation and development assistance, as well as the appointment of the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator as the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in East Timor and Transitional Administrator of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of close consultation and collaboration with the East Timorese people and organizations in the planning and delivery of humanitarian, rehabilitation and development assistance to East Timor;

4. *Requests* all Member States to respond urgently to meet fully the requirements of the United Nations consolidated inter-agency appeal for the East Timor crises, which was launched on 27 October 1999;

5. *Urges* Member States to respond fully to meet the identified needs of the Transitional Administration, including in such areas as the provision of civil and social services, institutions and capacity;

6. *Welcomes* the Joint Assessment Mission of the World Bank, United Nations agencies, the donor community, the Asian Development Bank and the East Timorese to assess the immediate and long-term rehabilitation, reconstruction and development needs of East Timor, within the United Nations arrangements for East Timor and in close cooperation with immediate relief and rehabilitation efforts, and requests all Member States to respond to meet the needs identified fully;

7. *Welcomes also*, in this regard, the convening of the Donors Meeting for East Timor in Tokyo on 16 and 17 December 1999;

8. *Calls upon* Member States, United Nations agencies, other international organizations and non-governmental organizations to continue to collaborate to ensure the safe and unhindered access and provision of humanitarian, rehabilitation and development assistance to all those in need in East Timor, including internally displaced persons;

9. *Calls upon* Member States, United Nations agencies and other international organizations to continue to collaborate, in full cooperation with the Indonesian Government, to ensure safe and unimpeded access for humanitarian assistance to the East Timorese in western Timor and other parts of Indonesia, including those who do not wish to return to East Timor, in accordance with national and international law;

10. *Welcomes* the assurances given by the Indonesian authorities regarding the activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other humanitarian organizations, including the security of the personnel of the Office of the High Commissioner, and assurances regarding free access to all East Timorese in western Timor;

11. *Calls upon* Member States to ensure the voluntary, safe and unimpeded return of refugees and displaced persons to East Timor, emphasizes the responsibility of States to ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee and displaced persons camps and settlements, and, in this regard, welcomes the policy of the Indonesian Government to ensure that the East Timorese have the freedom to exercise their right to return voluntarily, to remain in western Timor or to relocate within other parts of Indonesia or other countries;

12. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the memorandum of technical understanding of 22 November 1999 establishing a joint border monitoring group to ensure safe conditions in the border area and to facilitate the efficient and safe flow of returning East Timorese refugees;

13. *Urges* the United Nations to continue to address the humanitarian, rehabilitation and development needs of East Timor;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

I

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES AFFECTED BY HURRICANES JOSE AND LENNY

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/1 B of 5 October 1998 and other relevant resolutions under the agenda item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations",

Deeply distressed at the damage caused by hurricanes Jose and Lenny and the grave effects on the people, infrastructure and productive sectors of the economies of Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Grenada, the Netherlands Antilles, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and several other countries and territories of the region,

Deeply concerned at the frequency and unpredictability in the recurrence of these natural disasters, which seriously undermine the capacity of these countries to achieve sustained development,

Also concerned that hurricanes and other natural disasters exacerbate the effect of sea level rise, loss of biodiversity and the destruction of land resources and marine and coastal zones,

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[99] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/53/3), chap. VII, para. 5.

Mindful of the vulnerability of the natural environment and infrastructure of these countries to the effects of these disasters and the new challenges which they present to the efforts of the affected countries and territories to preserve their economic viability and insurability,

Conscious of the efforts of the Governments and the peoples of Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Grenada, the Netherlands Antilles, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and several other countries and territories of the region to restore infrastructure and rehabilitate productive sectors, particularly agriculture and tourism,

Also conscious of the efforts of the Governments and the peoples of the affected countries and territories of the region to save lives and alleviate the sufferings of the victims of the hurricanes,

Noting the enormous effort that will be required to rebuild the affected areas and to alleviate the grave situation caused by these natural disasters,

Recognizing that the magnitude of the disasters and the medium-term and long-term effects will require, as a complement to the efforts being made by the peoples and the Governments of the affected countries, a demonstration of international solidarity and humanitarian concern to ensure broad multilateral cooperation in order to meet the immediate emergency situation in the affected areas and to initiate the process of reconstruction and rehabilitation,

1. *Notes* the efforts of the Governments of Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Grenada, the Netherlands Antilles, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and Grenadines and several other countries and territories of the region;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to all States of the international community, international agencies and non-governmental organizations that are providing emergency relief to the affected countries;

3. *Urges* all States of the international community, as a matter of urgency, to contribute generously to the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in the affected countries and to provide financing for the national and regional relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts being undertaken by the affected countries;

4. *Urges* the bodies and agencies of the United Nations system and the international financial institutions to assist Governments in their rehabilitation and redevelopment efforts, taking into account their vulnerability to natural disasters;

5. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and other multilateral organizations to assist in the strengthening of national and regional capacity for disaster preparedness, planning, mitigation and reconstruction, including early warning systems;

6. *Calls upon* the relevant agencies and bodies of the United Nations system as well as regional bodies to assist the States and territories of the Caribbean region in convening, when possible, a workshop for building national and regional capacity in disaster preparedness and disaster management;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-fifth session, under the agenda item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", on the collaborative effort referred to in the present resolution, and on the progress made in the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts of the affected countries;

8. *Also requests* that the Secretary-General include in his report to the General Assembly information on the linkages between implementation of the present resolution and implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[83] and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action.[84]

J

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO THE SUDAN

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/1 O of 17 December 1998 and its previous resolutions on emergency assistance to the Sudan,

Bearing in mind its resolution 54/192 of 17 December 1999 on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel,

Welcoming agreed conclusions 1998/1 of the Economic and Social Council,[18] adopted by the Council at the humanitarian segment of its substantive session of 1998, in which, among other things, the Council reaffirmed that international cooperation to address emergency situations should be provided in accordance with international law and national laws, and that the affected State has the primary role in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory,

Welcoming also agreed conclusions 1999/1 of the Economic and Social Council,[19] in which the Council addressed the theme of "International cooperation and coordinated responses to humanitarian emergencies, in particular in the transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development" in its second humanitarian segment,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[85]

Welcoming the decision of the Government of the Sudan to provide access to the Nuba Mountains, noting in that regard the results of the inter-agency needs assessment mission undertaken by the United Nations, and calling upon all parties to continue to cooperate with the United Nations in meeting the needs identified in that assessment,

Noting the occasional obstacles to the delivery of humanitarian assistance, welcoming the agreements reached by the parties to Operation Lifeline Sudan, among them the Rome protocol, aiming at facilitating delivery of relief assistance to affected populations, as well as the progress made by the Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in strengthening the coordination of the Operation,

Urging United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and donor countries to continue channelling their humanitarian assistance to all affected populations in the Sudan through Operation Lifeline Sudan,

Expressing concern over the continued conflict in the Sudan and its negative impact on the humanitarian situation,

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[83] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[84] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-second Special Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/S-22/9/Rev.1).

[85] A/54/295.

Taking note of the ongoing peace efforts taking place under the auspices of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and the initiative of Egypt and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for achieving a negotiated and lasting peace in the Sudan,

Noting with appreciation the contributions for the inter-agency appeal for Operation Lifeline Sudan and the progress made in the Operation, and noting also that considerable relief needs still remain to be addressed, including assistance to combat diseases such as malaria and assistance for logistic needs, emergency recovery, rehabilitation and development,

Expressing concern over the damaging consequences of floods that have occurred in various parts of the Sudan lately,

Calling for an early resolution to the conflict, and expressing concern that its continuation further increases the suffering of the civilian population and undermines the effectiveness of international, regional and national humanitarian assistance,

Reaffirming the need for all parties to continue to facilitate the work of humanitarian organizations in implementing emergency assistance, in particular the supply of food, medicine, shelter and health care, and to ensure safe and unhindered access to all affected populations,

Recognizing the need in emergency situations to ensure the smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and development so as to reduce dependence on external food aid and other relief services,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the donor community, United Nations agencies and governmental and non-governmental organizations for the contributions so far made to the humanitarian needs of the Sudan, and calls upon them to continue their assistance, in particular by responding to the consolidated appeal and providing support for programmes in the Nuba Mountains;

2. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the cooperation by the Government of the Sudan with the United Nations, including the agreements and arrangements achieved to facilitate relief operations with a view to improving United Nations assistance to the affected areas, encourages the continuation of that cooperation, and calls upon all parties to the conflict to respect the current humanitarian ceasefire, in order to ensure the delivery of relief assistance;

3. *Stresses* the need for Operation Lifeline Sudan to be operated and managed with a view to ensuring its efficiency, transparency and effectiveness, with the full involvement and cooperation of the Government of the Sudan, taking cognizance of the relevant Operation Lifeline Sudan agreements reached by the parties, as well as consultations in the preparation of the consolidated annual inter-agency appeal for the Operation;

4. *Recognizes* the need for Operation Lifeline Sudan to be conducted in strict adherence to the principles of neutrality and impartiality and within the principles of national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Sudan, and within the framework of international cooperation, in accordance with the relevant provisions of international law;

5. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to contribute generously to the emergency needs, recovery and development of the Sudan;

6. *Urges* the international community to give assistance for the rehabilitation of transportation means and infrastructure vital for the provision of relief supplies in the Sudan and their cost-effectiveness, and in this context stresses the importance of continued cooperation by all the parties involved so as to facilitate and improve the delivery of relief supplies;

7. *Calls upon* the donor community and the organizations of the United Nations system to provide financial, technical and medical assistance, guided by the actions called for by the General Assembly in its relevant resolutions, to combat such diseases as malaria and other epidemics in the Sudan;

8. *Urges* the international community to continue to support national programmes of rehabilitation, voluntary resettlement and reintegration of returnees and internally displaced persons, as well as assistance to refugees;

9. *Stresses* the imperative of ensuring the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, as well as safe and unhindered access for providing relief assistance to all affected populations, and the importance of strict observance of the principles and guidelines of Operation Lifeline Sudan, and of international humanitarian law reaffirming the necessity for humanitarian personnel to respect the national laws of the Sudan;

10. *Welcomes* the decision of the Government of the Sudan to extend for a further period of three months the ceasefire for all the areas of military operation in the country and the announcement by the Sudan People's Liberation Movement and Army of the continuation of the humanitarian ceasefire within the same period for Bahr al Ghazal and parts of the Upper Nile, strongly appeals for a comprehensive ceasefire and appeals to the parties and the revitalized mediation structure to work to this end as part of a negotiated solution to the conflict;

11. *Urges* all parties involved to continue to offer all feasible assistance, including facilitating the movement of relief supplies and personnel, so as to guarantee the success of Operation Lifeline Sudan in all affected parts of the country, with especial emphasis on national capacity-building in the humanitarian field for governmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as on meeting emergency relief needs;

12. *Calls upon* all parties to respect international humanitarian law on the protection of civilians during times of war and, in this connection, condemns attacks against civilians and humanitarian personnel, including the case of four Sudanese nationals who were abducted on 18 February 1999 while accompanying a humanitarian mission of an International Committee of the Red Cross team and subsequently killed while in the custody of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement and Army, and urges the Sudan People's Liberation Movement and Army to return the bodies to their families;

13. *Condemns* the detention of humanitarian personnel, and calls for appropriate investigations into all allegations of such incidents, including into the whereabouts of the eleven personnel of the sub-Saharan international development organizations last seen in rebel-held areas;

14. *Welcomes* the signing by the Government of the Sudan of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[174] urges all parties to the conflict to desist from using them, calls upon the international community to refrain from supplying mines to the region, and urges the international community and United Nations agencies to provide appropriate assistance related to mine action in the Sudan;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize and coordinate resources and support for Operation Lifeline Sudan and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the emergency situation in the affected areas and the recovery, rehabilitation and development of the Sudan.

K

ASSISTANCE TO VENEZUELA FOLLOWING THE DEVASTATING FLOODS AND LANDSLIDES

The General Assembly,

Deeply concerned at the loss of human lives and the unprecedented destruction of property and infrastructure caused in recent days by the worst floods and landslides Venezuela has ever suffered,

Recognizing that natural disasters constitute a major problem for development whose solution requires considerable resources and calls for efforts at the national level to be supplemented by international financial and technical assistance,

Recognizing also the large-scale relief and emergency assistance efforts being made by the Government and the people of Venezuela in order to alleviate the suffering of the disaster victims,

Aware that to mitigate and prevent the consequences of this disaster, international emergency assistance is required,

Taking note of the appeal by the Secretary-General to the international community for aid and assistance to Venezuela in dealing with the effects of the floods and landslides,

Taking note also of the appeal to the international community by the Government of Venezuela to provide emergency humanitarian aid, and of the need for assistance in rehabilitation and reconstruction of the areas affected by the disastrous floods and landslides,

1. *Expresses its solidarity*, at this difficult time, with the Government and the people of Venezuela in their efforts to cope with the serious humanitarian and material consequences of the disaster;

2. *Appeals* to all Member States, the specialized agencies and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as to international financing institutions and non-governmental organizations, to respond urgently and provide generous assistance to Venezuela in its relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts and programmes following the unprecedented calamity it has suffered;

3. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Member States, international organizations and non-governmental organizations and private individuals and groups that are with such great generosity providing assistance to the Government of Venezuela in the initial immediate relief work;

4. *Expresses its deep gratitude* to the Secretary-General for the urgent steps he has taken to mobilize emergency humanitarian assistance;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make all necessary arrangements to continue mobilizing and coordinating humanitarian assistance from the specialized agencies and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system with a view to supporting the efforts of the Government of Venezuela.

RESOLUTION 54/97

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.22/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Canada, China, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Sweden, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine and Uzbekistan

54/97. Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 45/190 of 21 December 1990, 46/150 of 18 December 1991, 47/165 of 18 December 1992, 48/206 of 21 December 1993, 50/134 of 20 December 1995 and 52/172 of 16 December 1997, and taking note of the decisions adopted by the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system in the implementation of those resolutions,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1990/50 of 13 July 1990, 1991/51 of 26 July 1991 and 1992/38 of 30 July 1992 and Council decision 1993/232 of 22 July 1993,

Noting with appreciation the contribution made by States and by organizations of the United Nations system to the development of cooperation to mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, and the activities of regional and other organizations, in particular the Commission of the European Communities, as well as bilateral activities and those of non-governmental organizations,

Welcoming the commitments made by Member States in the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[184] to intensify cooperation, *inter alia*, in the prevention and reduction of major technological and other disasters with an adverse impact on the environment and in disaster relief and post-disaster rehabilitation in order to enhance the capabilities of affected countries to cope with such situations, as well as commitments made in response to the appeal of the Secretary-General on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident,

Conscious of the long-term nature of the consequences of the disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, which was a major technological catastrophe in terms of its scope and created humanitarian, environmental, social, economic and health consequences and problems of common concern, requiring for their solution wide and active international cooperation and coordination of efforts in this field at the international and national levels,

Stressing that the Governments of the affected countries have a primary role to play in facilitating efforts to mitigate the humanitarian consequences of the Chernobyl catastrophe, including the efforts of non-governmental organizations in providing humanitarian assistance,

Expressing profound concern about newly emerged signs of the effects on the lives and health of people, in particular children, in the affected areas of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, as well as in other countries affected by the Chernobyl disaster,

Taking into consideration the findings and outcome of the visit of the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs to the affected areas in Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine in October 1998,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of resolution 52/172,[185]

Noting the readiness of Ukraine to close the Chernobyl nuclear power plant by 2000, in accordance with the memorandum of understanding between the Governments of the members of the Group of Seven and the Commission of the European Communities and the Government of Ukraine on the closure of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, and bearing in mind the support already provided by a number of countries and international organizations for that purpose and the need for further support from relevant countries and international organizations,

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[184] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[185] A/54/449.

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in the implementation of the relevant General Assembly resolutions and, through existing coordination mechanisms, in particular the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl, to continue to maintain close cooperation with the agencies of the United Nations system, as well as with regional and other relevant organizations, with a view to encouraging the regular exchange of information, cooperation and coordination of multilateral and bilateral efforts in those areas, while implementing programmes and specific projects, *inter alia*, in the framework of relevant agreements and arrangements;

2. *Invites* States, in particular donor States, relevant multilateral financial institutions and other concerned parties of the international community, including non-governmental organizations, to continue to provide support to the ongoing efforts made by Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster and to pay special attention to the United Nations Appeal for International Cooperation on Chernobyl, launched in April 1999;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of full cooperation and assistance by the authorities of the affected countries in facilitating the work of humanitarian organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to mitigate the humanitarian consequences of the Chernobyl catastrophe, notes the measures already taken by the Governments of the affected countries in this regard, and encourages them to take further measures to simplify their relevant internal procedures and to identify ways in which to make their systems of granting exemption from customs and other duties more effective with regard to goods provided free of charge as humanitarian assistance by humanitarian organizations, including non-governmental organizations;

4. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the United Nations, in cooperation with the Governments of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, to promote the Inter-Agency Programme of International Assistance to Areas Affected by the Chernobyl Disaster;

5. *Welcomes also* the convening by the United Nations of a number of special international meetings on Chernobyl to generate further support to the populations of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine affected by the Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster, and urges the international community and the Governments of the affected countries to continue to contribute towards the implementation of the projects specified in the above-mentioned inter-agency programme;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* for the contributions made to the shelter implementation plan aimed at securing the environmental safety of the sarcophagus covering the remains of the destroyed Chernobyl reactor, and urges further contributions to the plan;

7. *Welcomes* the decision of the heads of State and Government of the seven major industrial States and the European Union, adopted at Cologne, Germany, in June 1999, to help to ensure the continued financing and progress in work under the shelter implementation plan and, in this regard, welcomes the convening of the pledging conference in Germany in May 2000;

8. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the activities of the International Chernobyl Centre[186] established in Ukraine, with the active participation of Belarus and the Russian Federation, as an important contribution towards enhancement of the capabilities of the international community to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of such accidents, and invites all interested parties to take part in the activities of the Centre;

9. *Urges* the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl to continue his efforts aimed at strengthening international cooperation to overcome the health, social, economic and ecological consequences of the Chernobyl disaster in the most affected areas of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, based on the Inter-Agency Programme of International Assistance to Areas Affected by the Chernobyl Disaster;

10. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue the regular exchange of information with the countries concerned, relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, with a view to enhancing world public awareness of the consequences of such disasters;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, under a separate sub-item, a report containing a comprehensive assessment of the implementation of the present resolution and proposals for innovative measures for optimizing the effectiveness of the response of the international community to the Chernobyl disaster.

RESOLUTION 54/98

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.34/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Madagascar Malaysia, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Seychelles, Slovakia, South Africa, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Uzbekistan

54/98. Participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 49/139 B of 20 December 1994, 50/19 of 28 November 1995 and 52/171 of 16 December 1997,

Reaffirming also its resolutions 46/182 of 19 December 1991, 47/168 of 22 December 1992, 48/57 of 14 December 1993, 49/139 A and B of 20 December 1994, 50/57 of 12 December 1995 and 51/194 of 17 December 1996 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1995/56 of 28 July 1995 and 1996/33 of 25 July 1996,

Recognizing that recent events emphasize the need for the international community, in addressing the growing magnitude and complexity of natural disasters and other humanitarian emergencies, to rely not only on the formulation of a well-coordinated global response within the framework of the United Nations but also on the promotion of a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development,

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[186] Formerly known as the International Scientific and Technological Centre for Nuclear and Radiological Accidents.

Recalling that prevention, preparedness and contingency planning for emergencies at the global level depend, for the most part, on the strengthened local and national response capacities as well as on the availability of financial resources, both domestic and international,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[187] prepared in pursuance of its resolution 52/171 on the participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development;

2. *Encourages* voluntary national and regional actions aimed at making available to the United Nations system, through the United Nations Volunteers, national volunteer corps such as the White Helmets on a standby basis, in accordance with accepted United Nations procedures and practices, in order to provide specialized human and technical resources for emergency relief and rehabilitation;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the commendable progress of the White Helmets initiative as a singular voluntary international effort to provide the United Nations system with volunteer expertise to respond, in a quick and coordinated manner, to humanitarian relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, while preserving the non-political, neutral and impartial character of humanitarian action;

4. *Recognizes with appreciation* that the White Helmets, in close cooperation with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and as an operational partner of the United Nations Volunteers, are an efficient and viable mechanism for making pre-identified and trained homogeneous teams available to the United Nations system, in support of immediate relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development activities, in the light of the increasing number, growing magnitude and complexity of natural disasters and other emergencies;

5. *Calls upon* Member States to promote the facilitation of cooperative actions between the United Nations system and the civil society, through national volunteer corps, in order to strengthen the United Nations capacities for early and effective response to humanitarian emergencies, and invites them to make the commensurate financial resources available through the special financing window of the Special Voluntary Fund of the United Nations Volunteers;

6. *Encourages* Member States to identify and support their respective national focal points for the White Helmets in order to continue to provide the United Nations system with an accessible global network of rapid response facilities in case of humanitarian emergencies;

7. *Invites* Member States, international financial institutions, regional organizations and the United Nations system to consider ways and means to ensure the integration of the White Helmets initiative into their programme activities, particularly those related to humanitarian and disaster relief assistance;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General, on the basis of the experience acquired, to consider further the potential use of White Helmets as a resource for preventing and mitigating the effects of emergencies and post-conflict humanitarian emergencies and, in this context, to maintain an adequate structure for the White Helmets liaison functions, taking into account the ongoing reforms process;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to conclude his consideration of the possible strengthening and broadening of consultative mechanisms to promote further and operationalize the concept, as referred to in paragraph 14 of his report and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", on the actions taken in conformity with the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/99

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.27 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela

54/99. United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/93 of 7 December 1998, in which it decided to authorize the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala from 1 January to 31 December 1999,

Taking into account the ninth report on human rights of the Mission,[188]

Taking into account also the report of the Commission for Historical Clarification,[189]

Stressing the role played by the Mission in support of the Guatemala peace process, and emphasizing the need for the Mission to continue to enjoy the support of all parties,

Taking into account the fact that the parties have expressed their interest in the continued presence of the Mission in Guatemala,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Mission[190] and the recommendations therein, which are aimed at ensuring that the Mission can respond adequately to the demands of the peace process until 31 December 2000,

1. *Welcomes* the ninth report on human rights of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala;[188]

2. *Also welcomes* the report of the Commission for Historical Clarification[189] and its recommendations;

3. *Takes note with satisfaction* of progress made in the implementation of the peace agreements, in particular the finalization of the programme for the repatriation of Guatemalan refugees in Mexico, compliance with the spending targets included in the agreements, increased deployment of the new National Civil Police, the approval by Congress of the new Land Trust Fund and the establishment of the Office for the Defence of Indigenous Women;

4. *Also takes note with satisfaction* of the ongoing efforts at consensus-building carried out within the commissions created under the peace agreements, as well as of the contribution of the Women's Forum;

5. *Underscores* the fact that, as pointed out by the Commission to Follow up the Implementation of the Peace Agreements, key reforms remain outstanding, including the

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[187] A/54/217.

[188] A/53/853, annex.

[189] A/53/928, annex.

[190] A/54/355.

fiscal, judicial, military and electoral reforms, and therefore stresses the critical importance of continued compliance with the peace agreements in 2000;

6. *Encourages* the Government to implement its decision to adopt a new military doctrine and disband the current Presidential Military Staff, in keeping with the peace agreements;

7. *Underscores* the fact that meeting the tax revenue targets set in the Agreement on Social and Economic Aspects and Agrarian Situation[191] is essential to the sustainability of the implementation of the peace agreements;

8. *Notes* that, while significant achievements have been registered in the implementation of the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights,[192] important shortcomings persist, and calls upon the Government to redouble its efforts in the promotion of human rights, taking into account the recommendations contained in the reports on human rights of the Mission, and to do its utmost to assist in the investigation of the murder of Monsignor Juan José Gerardi Conedera;

9. *Calls upon* the Government to follow up on the recommendations of the Commission for Historical Clarification, with a view to promoting national reconciliation, upholding the right to truth and providing redress, in accordance with Guatemalan law, for the victims of human rights abuses and violence committed during the thirty-six-year armed conflict;

10. *Welcomes* the commitment to the implementation of the peace agreements made by the presidential candidates of the major political parties and their support for the extension of the mandate of the Mission;

11. *Encourages* the parties and all sectors of Guatemalan society to continue efforts to achieve the goals of the peace agreements, in particular the observance of human rights, including the rights of indigenous peoples, equitable development, participation and national reconciliation;

12. *Invites* the international community and, in particular, the agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations, to continue to take the implementation of the peace agreements as the framework for their technical and financial assistance programmes and projects, and stresses the continued importance of close cooperation among them;

13. *Stresses* the role of the Mission as a key instrument in the consolidation of peace, promotion of the observance of human rights and building of confidence in the implementation of the peace agreements;

14. *Decides* to authorize the renewal of the mandate of the Mission from 1 January to 31 December 2000;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, as early as possible, an updated report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, with his assessment and recommendations with regard to the peace process after 31 December 2000;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly fully informed of the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/100

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 9 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.55, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan

54/100. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/2 of 13 October 1993, by which it granted observer status to the Economic Cooperation Organization,

Recalling also its resolutions 50/1 of 12 October 1995, 51/21 of 27 November 1996, 52/19 of 21 November 1997 and 53/15 of 29 October 1998, in all of which it urged the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and invited international financial institutions to extend their assistance to the Economic Cooperation Organization in the attainment of its objectives,

Recalling further that one of the main objectives of the United Nations and of the Economic Cooperation Organization is to promote international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character,

Mindful of the role of the Economic Cooperation Organization as a regional organization, which, after having restructured itself, is now better prepared to play an enhanced role as a regional economic grouping for all-round socio-economic development of its member States,

Welcoming the recent developments concerning the increased interaction between the various entities of the United Nations system and the Economic Cooperation Organization towards promoting the economic and social development of the States members of that organization,

Taking note of the communiqué issued at the ninth meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Economic Cooperation Organization, held in Baku on 21 May 1999, which stressed the importance of, and the renewed resolve of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization with regard to, socio-economic development and enhanced trade exchanges in the Economic Cooperation Organization region,

Recognizing the risks and challenges posed as well as the opportunities offered by the process of globalization and liberalization to the economies of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization, and emphasizing the need to address the concerns of those States in order to mitigate the negative consequences of globalization and enable them to benefit from the process,

Expressing grave concern over the heavy human casualties caused by natural disasters and their devastating impact on the socio-economic situation of some States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 53/15[193] and expresses satisfaction at the enhanced pace of mutually beneficial interaction between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the ongoing cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Development Programme through the project "Capacity-building of the Economic Cooperation Organization secretariat", and invites the two organizations to continue to enhance and strengthen their ongoing cooperation;

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[191] A/50/956, annex.

[192] A/48/928–S/1994/448, annex I; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1994*, document S/1994/448.

[193] A/54/168.

3. *Notes* the keen participation of the Economic Cooperation Organization in various events sponsored by the specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations system such as the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations Population Fund during the past year, and calls for further contacts and active participation, as appropriate, of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the specialized agencies in each other's meetings and activities;

4. *Welcomes* the ongoing cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development including the trade efficiency action programme and the development of a multimodal transport and transit transport system in the Economic Cooperation Organization region;

5. *Appreciates* the ongoing cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme including, *inter alia*, the implementation of the Economic Cooperation Organization and United Nations International Drug Control Programme project for the establishment of a drug control coordination unit within the Economic Cooperation Organization secretariat and other activities contributing towards curtailment of the drug abuses and drug trafficking in the Economic Cooperation Organization region;

6. *Welcomes* the recommendations of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its fifty-fifth session, held in Bangkok from 22 to 28 April 1999, on promoting cooperation with the Economic Cooperation Organization in the identified areas of mutual concern, and invites the Commission to enhance the mutual collaboration with that organization, focusing on implementable projects in the priority areas of the Economic Cooperation Organization, namely, transport and communications, trade, investment, energy, environment, industry and agriculture, for the overall benefit of the entire region;

7. *Also welcomes* the continuation of efforts towards further consolidation of interregional consultations and exchange of views on issues of common concern through such useful forums as the fourth Consultative Meeting among Executive Heads of Subregional Organizations and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, held in Kathmandu in October 1998;

8. *Further welcomes* the enhanced contacts between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the World Bank pursuant to resolution 53/15, and reiterates its invitation addressed to the relevant international financial institutions to initiate, maintain and increase consultations in order to extend their assistance to the Economic Cooperation Organization and its associated institutions towards the realization of their objectives;

9. *Requests* the United Nations system and the international community to continue assisting in the strengthening of the capacity of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization as well as its secretariat to meet the challenges, and benefit from the opportunities, of globalization;

10. *Invites* the United Nations system, its relevant bodies and the international community to provide technical and other assistance, as appropriate, to the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization and its secretariat in strengthening their early warning system, preparedness, timely response and reconstruction with a view to reducing human casualties and mitigating the socio-economic impact of natural disasters;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization".

RESOLUTION 54/113

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 10 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.60 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Yemen

54/113. United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/22 of 4 November 1998 entitled "United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations",

Reaffirming the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, which, *inter alia*, call for collective effort to strengthen friendly relations among nations, remove threats to peace and foster international cooperation in resolving international issues of economic, social, cultural and humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

Bearing in mind the valuable contribution that dialogue among civilizations can make to an improved awareness and understanding of the common values shared by all humankind,

Recognizing the diverse civilizational achievements of mankind, crystallizing cultural pluralism and creative human diversity,

Aware that positive and mutually beneficial interaction among civilizations has continued throughout human history despite impediments arising from disputes and wars,

Underlining the fact that tolerance and respect for diversity facilitate universal promotion and protection of human rights and constitute sound foundations for civil society, social harmony and peace,

Emphasizing the indispensable role of dialogue as a means to reach understanding, promote a culture of peace, remove threats to peace and strengthen interaction and exchange among and within civilizations,

Reaffirming that civilizational achievements constitute the collective heritage of mankind, providing a source of inspiration and progress for humanity at large,

Welcoming the collective endeavour of the international community to enhance understanding through constructive dialogue among civilizations on the threshold of the third millennium,

Encouraged by the positive reception of Governments, international organizations, civil society organizations and international public opinion to the proclamation of the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations, and welcoming the initiatives undertaken by governmental and non-governmental actors to promote dialogue,

Expressing its firm determination to facilitate and promote dialogue among civilizations,

1. *Takes note with interest* of the report of the Secretary-General;[194]

2. *Welcomes* the decision of the Secretary-General to appoint his personal representative for the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations;

3. *Invites* Governments, the United Nations system, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and other relevant international and non-governmental organizations, to continue and further intensify planning and organizing appropriate cultural, educational and social programmes to promote the concept of dialogue among civilizations, including through organizing conferences and seminars and disseminating information and scholarly material on the subject, and to inform the Secretary-General of their activities;

4. *Calls upon* Governments to encourage all members of society to take part in promoting dialogue among civilizations and to provide them with an opportunity to make contributions to the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations;

5. *Notes with interest* the activities undertaken and proposals made by Member States, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and international and regional organizations, including the Organization of the Islamic Conference and non-governmental organizations, for the preparation of the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a further substantive report on preparations for the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations".

RESOLUTION 54/114

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 15 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.61 and Add.1, sponsored by: Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Finland, Gabon, Greece, India, Ireland, Italy, Lesotho, Mauritius, Norway, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America

54/114. Global implications of the year 2000 date conversion problem of computers

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/233 of 26 June 1998 and 53/86 of 7 December 1998, entitled "Global implications of the year 2000 date conversion problem of computers",

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Steps taken within the United Nations system and with Member States to resolve the year 2000 date conversion of computers",[195]

Recognizing that the effective operation of Governments, companies and other organizations is threatened by the year 2000 date conversion problem of computers, or "millennium bug",

Underlining the need for effective action to address the problem to be intensified as the inflexible date of 31 December 1999 draws nearer and nearer, beyond which important systems might cease to function,

Recognizing the potentially serious impact that the year 2000 problem could have in all countries whose economies are increasingly interdependent,

Emphasizing that the year 2000 problem could affect both computer systems and much electronic control equipment containing embedded chips and internal clocks, with wide-ranging effects on such important areas as power supplies, telecommunications, financial systems, transport, public health, building and factory systems, food supplies, emergency services and government services, including the organization of social welfare,

Emphasizing also that continued coordinated efforts by Governments and private, public and international organizations are required to address the year 2000 problem,

Noting that year 2000 effects are not limited to 1 January 2000, but may continue throughout the year as systems continue to use date-based information for monthly calculations and operations,

Appreciating the establishment of a trust fund by the World Bank to assist in the efforts to resolve the year 2000 problem and the voluntary contributions made to it by the Member States,

Appreciating also the efforts of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics of the Economic and Social Council in raising the level of awareness of the year 2000 problem,

1. *Requests* all Member States to continue their efforts to solve the year 2000 problem before the rollover date of 31 December 1999, including by working to ensure that the private sector is fully engaged in addressing the problem and by tackling it in those systems under their own control;

2. *Urges* Member States to take "best practices" measures, such as virus scanning, against the additional potential risk of malicious software which could be injected into systems with the intent of causing malfunctions or facilitating illegal access to information and which are meant to be mistaken for lack of year 2000 compliance;

3. *Urges* all Member States to emphasize the importance of contingency planning and to finalize such plans in order to address the potential for possible large-scale failures in the public and private sectors;

4. *Urges* Member States to set up and participate in national and regional mechanisms for service restoration in the event of service outages after 1 January 2000 attributable to the year 2000 problem;

5. *Appeals* to all Member States to forge global cooperation to ensure a timely and effective response to the year 2000 challenge and to work together to address the threats the problem poses globally and, in this regard, to cooperate with each other in the event of some Member States not having the capacity to correct service outages, through sharing information on significant events and on countermeasures taken, as well as causes, results and prospects of restoration of services, sharing resources in terms of knowledge, skills, products and solutions to offset the significant events and, where feasible, sending sector-specific experts and/or consultants to neighbouring countries;

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[194] A/54/546.

[195] A/54/525.

6. *Calls upon* Governments, public and private sector organizations and civil society generally to share, locally, regionally and globally, information about their experiences in addressing the year 2000 problem;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the United Nations system closely monitors actual and potential sources of funding to support the efforts of the developing countries and countries with economies in transition to address the year 2000 problem and to facilitate the dissemination of relevant information on those funding possibilities to the Member States;

8. *Urges* the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to be ready to respond to any humanitarian emergencies that could be caused by serious year 2000 failures;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a final report on the evaluation of the outcome of the steps taken within the United Nations system and with Member States to resolve the year 2000 problem.

RESOLUTION 54/115

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 15 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.59 and Add.1, sponsored by: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Chile, Cyprus, Greece, Grenada, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Maldives, Mauritius, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Seychelles, Slovakia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine and United States of America

54/115. International recognition of the Day of Vesak at United Nations Headquarters and other United Nations offices

The General Assembly,

Acknowledging the hope expressed by the International Buddhist Conference, held in Sri Lanka in November 1998, that the Day of Vesak, the Day of the Full Moon in the month of May each year, be recognized internationally and, in particular, at United Nations Headquarters and other United Nations offices,

Recognizing that the Day of the Full Moon in the month of May each year is the day most sacred to Buddhists, who commemorate on that day the birth of the Buddha, his attainment of enlightenment and his passing away,

Considering that international recognition at United Nations Headquarters and other United Nations offices would constitute acknowledgement of the contribution that Buddhism, one of the oldest religions in the world, has made for over two and a half millennia and continues to make to the spirituality of humanity,

Resolves that, without cost to the United Nations, appropriate arrangements shall be made for international observances of the Day of Vesak at United Nations Headquarters and other United Nations offices, in consultation with the relevant United Nations offices and with permanent missions that also wish to be consulted.

RESOLUTION 54/116

Adopted at the 80th plenary meeting, on 15 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.52 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

54/116. Assistance to the Palestinian people

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/89 of 7 December 1998,

Recalling also previous resolutions on the question,

Welcoming the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 1993 between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,[196] as well as the signing of the subsequent implementation agreements, including the Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip of 1995,[197] and the recent signing of the Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum on 4 September 1999,

Gravely concerned about the difficult economic and employment conditions facing the Palestinian people throughout the occupied territory,

Conscious of the urgent need for improvement in the economic and social infrastructure of the occupied territory and the living conditions of the Palestinian people,

Aware that development is difficult under occupation and best promoted in circumstances of peace and stability,

Noting the great economic and social challenges facing the Palestinian people and their leadership,

Conscious of the urgent necessity for international assistance to the Palestinian people, taking into account the Palestinian priorities,

Noting the convening of the United Nations Seminar on Assistance to the Palestinian People, entitled "Facing the challenges of the year 2000: promoting Palestinian national development",[198] held at Cairo on 27 and 28 April 1998,

Stressing the need for the full engagement of the United Nations in the process of building Palestinian institutions and in providing broad assistance to the Palestinian people, including assistance in the fields of elections, police training and public administration,

Noting the appointment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority,

Welcoming the results of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace, convened in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993, and the establishment of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee and the work being done by the World Bank as its secretariat, as well as the establishment of the Consultative Group,

Welcoming also the work of the Joint Liaison Committee, which provides a forum in which economic policy and practical matters related to donor assistance are discussed with the Palestinian Authority,

Welcoming further the results of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace and Development, held in Washington, D.C., on 30 November 1998, and expressing appreciation for the pledges of the international donor community,

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[196] A/48/486–S/26560, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*, document S/26560.

[197] A/51/889–S/1997/357, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-second Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1997*, document S/1997/357.

[198] A/53/152–E/1998/71, annex.

Welcoming the meeting of the Consultative Group at Frankfurt, Germany, on 4 and 5 February 1999, in particular the pledges of the international donor community and the presentation of the Palestinian Development Plan for the years 1999–2003,

Welcoming also the meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee held at Tokyo on 14 and 15 October 1999, the signing of the updated Tripartite Action Plan, and the proposal to hold the next meeting at Lisbon,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[199]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[199]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his rapid response and efforts regarding assistance to the Palestinian people;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Member States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations that have provided and continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority and of the steps taken under the auspices of the Secretary-General to ensure the achievement of a coordinated mechanism for United Nations activities throughout the occupied territories;

5. *Urges* Member States, international financial institutions of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and regional and interregional organizations to extend, as rapidly and as generously as possible, economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people in close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization and through official Palestinian institutions;

6. *Calls upon* relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to intensify their assistance in response to the urgent needs of the Palestinian people in accordance with Palestinian priorities set forth by the Palestinian Authority, with emphasis on national execution and capacity-building;

7. *Urges* Member States to open their markets to exports of Palestinian products on the most favourable terms, consistent with appropriate trading rules, and to implement fully existing trade and cooperation agreements;

8. *Calls upon* the international donor community to expedite the delivery of pledged assistance to the Palestinian people to meet their urgent needs;

9. *Suggests* the convening in 2000 of a United Nations-sponsored seminar on the Palestinian economy;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution, containing:

(*a*) An assessment of the assistance actually received by the Palestinian people;

(*b*) An assessment of the needs still unmet and specific proposals for responding effectively to them;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", the sub-item entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people".

RESOLUTION 54/117

Adopted at the 80th plenary meeting, on 15 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 124 to none, with 2 abstentions,[200] on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.64 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America, and the amendment in document A/54/L.65, sponsored by Azerbaijan

54/117. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

The General Assembly,

Recalling the framework for cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe,[201] signed on 26 May 1993, as well as its resolutions on cooperation between the two organizations,

Recalling also the declaration at the 1992 Helsinki Summit by the heads of State or Government of the participating States of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe of their understanding that the Conference is a regional arrangement in the sense of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations and as such provides an important link between European and global security,[202]

Acknowledging the increasing contribution of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security in its region through activities in early warning and preventive diplomacy, including through the activities of the High Commissioner on National Minorities, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, as well as arms control and disarmament,

Recalling the special ties between the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Mediterranean Partners for Cooperation, as well as between that organization and the Asian Partners for Cooperation, Japan and the Republic of Korea, which have been further enhanced this year,

Underlining the continued importance of enhanced cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[203]

2. *Notes with appreciation* the further improvement of cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and its agencies and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, including at the level of activities in the field;

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[199] A/54/134–E/1999/85.

[200] For details, see annex II.

[201] See A/48/185, annex II.

[202] See A/47/361–S/24370, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-seventh Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1992*, document S/24370.

[203] A/54/537 and Corr.1.

3. *Welcomes*, in this context, the participation of the Secretary-General and high-level United Nations representatives in the meetings of the Permanent Council of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the participation of the Secretary-General in the Summit of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, held in Istanbul in November 1999;

4. *Encourages* further efforts of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to foster security and stability in its region through early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, as well as through continued promotion of democracy, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms;

5. *Welcomes* the adoption at the Istanbul Summit of the Charter for European Security, which reaffirms the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe as a primary organization for the peaceful settlement of disputes within its region and as a key instrument for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, which is aimed at strengthening security and stability in the region and improving the operational capabilities of that organization, *inter alia*, by enhancing the capability to deploy civilian expertise speedily through the Rapid Expert Assistance Teams Programme and which includes the establishment of the Platform for Cooperative Security as a basis for flexible and mutually supporting cooperation between organizations concerned with the promotion of comprehensive security within the region, whose members adhere to the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and the principles and commitments of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe as set out in the Platform;

6. *Welcomes also* the increasingly close cooperation between the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

7. *Welcomes further* the participation of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict in the Review Conference of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, held at Istanbul in November 1999, and notes with appreciation the commitment of that organization, as stated in the Declaration adopted by the heads of State or Government at the Istanbul Summit, to promote children's rights and interests, especially in conflict and post-conflict situations;

8. *Acknowledges* the work carried out by the Kosovo Verification Mission, prior to its withdrawal on 20 March 1999, in verifying the implementation of Security Council resolution 1199 (1998) of 23 September 1998, in accordance with Council resolution 1203 (1998) of 24 October 1998, and the contribution of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to the implementation of Security Council resolution 1160 (1998) of 31 March 1998, including the contribution of the Chairman-in-Office of that organization to the reports of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to that resolution;

9. *Commends* the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe for its assistance to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in handling the great influx of refugees from Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, to Albania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in March-June 1999;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* for the contribution by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo in implementing Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999, including the establishment pursuant to that resolution of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Mission in Kosovo as an essential part of the broader United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, responsible for institution-building, including the training of a new Kosovo police service, judicial personnel and civil administrators, the development of free media, democratization and governance, the organization and supervision of elections and the monitoring, protection and promotion of human rights, in cooperation with, *inter alia*, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and stresses the commitment of the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to the full implementation of resolution 1244 (1999);

11. *Welcomes* the readiness of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to continue to fulfil the role assigned to it in the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina,[204] in cooperation with the United Nations, in particular in the fields of human rights and judicial and police reform;

12. *Fully supports* the continued provision by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe of advice and assistance within its field of experience to Albania in its continuing process of social, political and economic transition, including by furnishing the overall framework for the Group of Friends of Albania, which brings together countries and international institutions that actively wish to support Albania in its development efforts, and by co-chairing the Group together with the European Union at the international level;

13. *Commends* the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe for providing its assistance and expertise to Croatia in the field of human rights and the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, its role in Croatia in monitoring the implementation of commitments on the return of refugees and displaced persons, its monitoring of democratic institutions and means of promoting reconciliation and the rule of law and its continued provision of civilian police monitors in the Danubian region of Croatia;

14. *Welcomes* the decision of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to take under its auspices the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, launched at the initiative of the European Union, adopted by the Cologne Ministerial Conference in June 1999 and endorsed by the Sarajevo Summit in July 1999, and to develop a regional strategy to support its aims;

15. *Notes* the principles embodied in the Helsinki Final Act;

16. *Fully supports* the activities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to achieve a peaceful solution to the conflict in and around the Nagorny-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan, and welcomes cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in this regard;

17. *Applauds* the intensified dialogue between the President of Armenia and the President of Azerbaijan, whose regular contacts have created opportunities to dynamize the process of finding a lasting and comprehensive solution to the Nagorny-Karabakh conflict, firmly supports this dialogue and encourages its continuation, with the hope of resuming negotiations within the Minsk Group of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and welcomes the fact that the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and its Minsk Group, which remains the most appropriate forum for finding a solution, stand ready to advance further the

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[204] A/50/790–S/1995/999; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995*, document S/1995/999.

peace process and its future implementation, including by providing all necessary assistance to the parties;

18. *Encourages* further close cooperation between the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the United Nations in the peace process in Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia and Abkhazia, Georgia, including through the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Georgia and the United Nations Human Rights Office in Sukhumi, and fully supports that organization in its efforts aimed at the implementation of practical measures agreed at the Istanbul Summit and the decisions of the Oslo Ministerial Council Meeting;

19. *Fully supports* the efforts of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe aimed at achieving a settlement of the problems in the Transdniestran region of the Republic of Moldova, welcomes the commitment of that organization to facilitate the implementation of the relevant decisions of the Budapest and Lisbon Summits, the Oslo Ministerial Council Meeting and the Istanbul Summit, and notes in this regard the commitment by the Russian Federation, undertaken at the Istanbul Summit, to complete within a specific timetable the withdrawal of the Russian forces from the territory of the Republic of Moldova;

20. *Welcomes* the increased presence of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in Central Asia and the readiness of that organization to contribute, *inter alia*, together with the United Nations, to strengthening cooperation in the region, as well as the commitment of that organization to promote democratic institutions and assist the Central Asian countries in addressing economic and environmental problems;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue exploring with the Chairman-in-Office and the Secretary-General of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe possibilities for further enhancement of cooperation, information exchange and coordination between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/118

Adopted at the 80th plenary meeting, on 15 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.24/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Ireland, Italy, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela

54/118. The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

The General Assembly,

Considering the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, particularly resolution 637 (1989) of 27 July 1989, and its own resolutions, particularly resolution 43/24 of 15 November 1988, in which it requests the Secretary-General to continue his good offices and to afford the fullest possible support to the Central American Governments in their efforts to achieve the objectives of peace, reconciliation, democracy, development and justice established in the agreement on "Procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America" of 7 August 1987,[205]

Reaffirming its resolutions in which it recognizes and stresses the importance of international economic, financial and technical cooperation and assistance, both bilateral and multilateral, aimed at promoting economic and social development in the region with a view to furthering and supplementing the efforts of the Central American peoples and Governments to achieve peace and democratization, particularly resolution 52/169 G of 16 December 1997, concerning international assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America,[206] as well as its resolution 53/1 C of 2 November 1998, concerning emergency assistance to Central America, owing to the destruction caused by hurricane Mitch,

Emphasizing the importance of the development of the Central American Integration System, which has as its main objective the promotion of the integration process; the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America as the integrated programme for national and regional development, which contains the commitments and priorities of the countries of the area for the promotion of sustainable development; the establishment of the subsystem and of the regional social policy; the model of democratic Central American security; and the implementation of other agreements adopted at the presidential summit meetings, which taken together constitute the global frame of reference for consolidating peace, freedom, democracy and development and the basis for the promotion of mutually advantageous relations between Central America and the international community,

Recognizing the progress made in the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the Guatemala Peace Agreements, implementation of which is being verified by the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala, including the submission of the report of the Commission for Historical Clarification,[207] the finalization of the programme for the repatriation of the Guatemalan refugees in Mexico, the compliance with the expenditure ceilings contained in the Agreements, the expansion of the deployment of the new National Civil Police, the approval by the Congress of the new Land Act and the establishment of the Office for the Defence of Indigenous Women,

Taking note with satisfaction of the successful implementation of the Peace Agreements and of the consolidation of the process of democratization in El Salvador, as a result of the efforts of the country's people and Government,

Recognizing with satisfaction the role played by the peacekeeping operations and observer and monitoring missions of the United Nations, which carried out successfully their mandate in Central America pursuant to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly, respectively,

Welcoming the changes and progress made by the Central American peoples, whose efforts have brought about, *inter alia*, the strengthening of civil society and authority, the creation of new political forms, the holding of free and pluralistic elections, the creation of mechanisms for the protection and promotion of human rights, freedom of expression, the strengthening of democratic institutions and of the rule of law, judicial reform processes and the adoption of a fairer development model providing greater opportunities for the Central American peoples,

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[205] A/42/521–S/19085, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-second Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1987*, document S/19085.

[206] See A/49/580–S/1994/1217, annex I; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1994*, document S/1994/1217.

[207] A/53/928, annex.

Emphasizing the importance of the end of a critical period in Central American history and the start of a new phase free from armed conflict, with freely elected Governments in each country and with political, economic, social and other changes which can create a climate conducive to the promotion of economic growth and further progress towards the consolidation and further development of democratic, just and equitable societies,

Reaffirming that firm and lasting peace and democracy in Central America are a dynamic and ongoing process that faces serious structural challenges, whose continuation and consolidation are closely related to progress in human development, especially the alleviation of extreme poverty, the promotion of economic and social justice, judicial reform, the safeguarding of human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for minorities and the satisfaction of the basic needs of the most vulnerable groups among the peoples of the region, issues which have been a primary source of tension and conflict and which deserve to be discussed with the same urgency and dedication as was the case in the settlement of armed conflicts,

Deeply concerned by the devastating effects of hurricane Mitch and other natural disasters on the population and economies of the region's countries and by the possible consequences of a significant setback as regards the efforts of the Central American peoples and the international community to overcome the aftermath of the armed conflicts and as regards the progress made with respect to political stability, democratization and sustainable development,

Emphasizing the solidarity of the international community with the victims of hurricane Mitch, as demonstrated by friendly States' generous response to the emergency situation and in particular by the meetings of the Consultative Group for the Reconstruction and Transformation of Central America, held in Washington, D.C., in December 1998 and in Stockholm in May 1999, resulting in the Stockholm Declaration,[illegible] in which the objectives and principles of reconstruction and transformation were established, and of which five countries agreed to initiate the follow-up process,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[illegible]

2. *Commends* the efforts of the peoples and the Governments of the Central American countries to re-establish peace and democracy throughout the region and promote sustainable development by implementing the commitments adopted at the summit meetings, and supports the decision of the presidents that Central America should become a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development;

3. *Recognizes* the need to continue to follow closely the situation in Central America according to the objectives and principles established in the Stockholm Declaration[illegible] in order to support national and regional efforts to overcome the underlying causes that have led to armed conflicts, avoid setbacks and consolidate peace and democratization in the area and promote the objectives of the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America,[illegible] especially in the transitional period for overcoming the devastating effects of hurricane Mitch and other natural disasters, which entail extraordinary efforts for the reconstruction and transformation of the worst affected countries in the region, in particular Honduras and Nicaragua;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the global frame of reference and the establishment of national and regional development priorities as the basis for promoting the effective, consistent and sustainable progress of the Central American peoples, and for providing international cooperation in accordance with the new circumstances in and outside the region;

5. *Welcomes* the progress achieved in implementing the Guatemala Peace Agreements, calls upon all parties to take further measures to implement the commitments in the Peace Agreements, and urges all sectors of society to combine efforts and work with courage and determination to consolidate peace;

6. *Also welcomes* the efforts made by the people and the Government of El Salvador to fulfil the commitments set forth in the Peace Agreements, thus contributing substantially to the strengthening of the democratization process in the country;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the bodies and programmes of the United Nations system and the international community to continue to support and verify in Guatemala the implementation of all the peace agreements signed under United Nations auspices, compliance with which is an essential condition for a firm and lasting peace in that country;

8. *Recognizes* the importance of the Central American Integration System as the body set up to coordinate and harmonize efforts to achieve integration, a process aimed at establishing, gradually and progressively, the Central American Union, and calls upon the international community, the United Nations system and other international organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, to extend generous and effective cooperation with a view to improving the competence and efficiency of the Central American Integration System in the fulfilment of its mandate;

9. *Encourages* the Central American Governments to continue to carry out their historic responsibilities by fully implementing the commitments they have assumed under national, regional or international agreements, especially the commitments to implement the social programme to overcome poverty and unemployment, establish a more just and equitable society, improve public safety, strengthen the judiciary, consolidate a modern and transparent public administration and eliminate corruption, impunity, acts of terrorism and drug and arms trafficking, all of which are necessary and urgent measures for establishing a firm and lasting peace in the region;

10. *Reiterates its deep appreciation* to the Secretary-General, his special representatives, the groups of countries for the peace processes in El Salvador (Colombia, Mexico, Spain, United States of America and Venezuela), and Guatemala (Colombia, Mexico, Norway, Spain, United States of America and Venezuela), to the Support Group for Nicaragua (Canada, Mexico, Netherlands, Spain and Sweden), to the European Union and to other countries that have contributed significantly and to the international community in general for its support and solidarity in the building of peace, democracy and development in Central America;

11. *Reaffirms* the importance of international cooperation, in particular cooperation with the bodies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, and the donor community in the new stage of consolidating peace and democracy in Central America, and urges them to continue to support Central American efforts to achieve those goals, bearing in mind the global framework of the new regional

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[illegible] See www.iadb.org.

[illegible] A/54/361.

development strategy, which is in keeping with the collective aspirations and needs of the Central American peoples;

12. *Notes with appreciation* the demonstrations of international solidarity and support for the region's reconstruction and transformation efforts following the severe damage caused by hurricane Mitch, which will enable the region to attain normality and continue its efforts to consolidate democracy and attain sustainable development;

13. *Reaffirms* the need to maintain sustained assistance to the region in order to create the conditions needed for balance between the challenges of reconstruction, economic growth and equitable social development that will ensure firm and lasting peace in the region, and stresses the need to improve preparedness and the integration of natural disaster reduction components into development planning;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to lend his full support to the initiatives and activities of the Central American Governments, particularly their efforts to consolidate peace and democracy through the implementation of a new, comprehensive sustainable development programme and the initiative to establish the Central American Union, emphasizing, *inter alia*, the potential repercussions of natural disasters, in particular of hurricane Mitch, for the peace processes and the vulnerable economies of the region, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development".

RESOLUTION 54/119

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 15 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.63/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

54/119. The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/242 of 25 August 1992, 47/1 of 22 September 1992, 47/121 of 18 December 1992, 48/88 of 20 December 1993, 49/10 of 3 November 1994, 51/203 of 17 December 1996, 52/150 of 15 December 1997, 53/35 of 30 November 1998 and all relevant resolutions of the Security Council regarding the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina,

Reaffirming its support for the independence, sovereignty, legal continuity and territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina, within its internationally recognized borders,

Also reaffirming its support for the equality of the three constituent peoples and others in Bosnia and Herzegovina as a united country, with two multi-ethnic entities,

Welcoming the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the annexes thereto (collectively the "Peace Agreement"), signed in Paris on 14 December 1995,[290]

Also welcoming the efforts for the respect, promotion and protection of human rights and the strengthening of the rule of law in all of Bosnia and Herzegovina and for the development of the common institutions that will ensure that Bosnia and Herzegovina functions as an integrated modern State, accountable to its citizens,

Supporting those institutions and organizations of Bosnia and Herzegovina which are engaged in the implementation of the Peace Agreement and the process of reconciliation and reintegration, and noting, however, the insufficient progress by the common institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina reported in the assessment of the High Representative for the Implementation of the Peace Agreement on Bosnia and Herzegovina before the Security Council on 1 November 1999,

Concerned by the continuing obstructions faced by refugees and displaced persons wishing to return to their pre-war homes, in particular in areas where they would be an ethnic minority, emphasizing the need for all parties and the relevant States and international organizations to create the conditions necessary to facilitate a secure and dignified return, particularly in urban areas such as Sarajevo, Banja Luka and Mostar, and stressing the need for a regional approach to the issue of refugees and displaced persons,

Supporting fully the efforts of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, stressing the importance and urgency of the work of the International Tribunal as an element of the process of reconciliation and as a factor contributing to the maintenance of international peace and security in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the region as a whole, demanding that States and parties to the Peace Agreement meet their obligations to cooperate fully with the Tribunal, as required by Security Council resolutions 827(1993) of 25 May 1993, 1022 (1995) of 22 November 1995 and 1207 (1998) of 17 November 1998, including with respect to surrendering persons sought by the Tribunal, and welcoming the efforts to secure compliance with the orders of the Tribunal, consistent with the Security Council mandate,

Having considered the sixth annual report of the International Tribunal,[291] gravely concerned over the continued obstructionism of certain States and entities in the region with respect to execution of the Tribunal's orders and compliance with obligations under international law, as noted in the report, noting that thirty-five individuals named in public indictments still remain at large, most of them in the territory of the former Yugoslavia, and welcoming the efforts of the High Representative and the Commander of the multinational Stabilization Force in implementing the provisions of the Peace Agreement,

Welcoming the mutual recognition among all the successor States of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia within their internationally recognized borders, and stressing the importance of full normalization of relations, including the unconditional establishment of diplomatic relations among those States in accordance with the Peace Agreement and the settlement of all issues relating to the succession of the former Yugoslavia, in order to contribute to the achievement of lasting peace and stability in the area,

Also welcoming the successful summit meeting of heads of State and Government to launch the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe in Sarajevo on 29 and 30 July 1999, and stressing that the Stability Pact offers a broad regional framework for further progress in Bosnia and Herzegovina,

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[290] A/50/790-S/1995/999; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995*, document S/1995/999.

[291] A/54/187–S/1999/846; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999*, document S/1999/846.

Noting that democratization in the region will enhance the prospects for a lasting peace and help to guarantee full respect for human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the region,

Stressing the importance of full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for the success of the peace efforts for the region, and calling upon the Governments and authorities in the region, as well as the relevant international organizations, to facilitate such full respect,

Welcoming the finalization of a draft of the permanent electoral law, expressing support for early adoption of the draft electoral law by the Parliament, noting that such adoption is a prerequisite for membership of the Council of Europe, and reaffirming the importance of genuine democratic representation of all three constituent peoples in all common institutions,

Noting the positive impact of the five previous pledging conferences, held on 21 December 1995, 13 and 14 April 1996, 25 July 1997, 8 and 9 May 1998 and 30 May 1999 and chaired by the World Bank and the European Union, on the peace process and reintegration of the country as well as the reconstruction effort, stressing the importance and urgency of providing the financial assistance and technical cooperation pledged for reconstruction efforts, and stressing the role of economic revitalization in the process of reconciliation, in the improvement of living conditions and in the maintenance of a durable peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the region,

Stressing that the provision of reconstruction aid and financial assistance is conditional upon the parties meeting their obligations under the Peace Agreement,

Recognizing the importance of demining for the normalization of life and for the return of refugees and internally displaced persons,

Encouraging the efforts at reducing the military assets in line with the Agreement on Subregional Arms Control,

Welcoming the important efforts of the European Union and bilateral and other donors to provide humanitarian and economic assistance for reconstruction,

1. *Expresses its full support* for the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the annexes thereto (collectively the "Peace Agreement"),[illegible] which constitute the key mechanism for the achievement of a durable and just peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, leading to stability and cooperation in the region and the reintegration of Bosnia and Herzegovina at all levels;

2. *Welcomes* the adoption on 15 November 1999 of the New York Declaration,[illegible] in which the Joint Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina agreed to important steps for moving forward the process of fully implementing the Peace Agreement, including the establishment of a State border service, improved inter-entity military cooperation, steps to improve the functioning of common State institutions, including the creation of a permanent secretariat for the Joint Presidency under one roof, the establishment of a joint commission on refugee returns and the creation of a single national passport;

3. *Demands* that all parties facilitate the full implementation of all aspects of the New York Declaration, including, in particular, the Principles on the Establishment of a State Border Service,[illegible] in a timely manner;

4. *Notes* the progress that has been made towards the implementation of the Peace Agreement, and reiterates its demands for the full, comprehensive and consistent implementation thereof;

5. *Supports fully* the efforts of the High Representative for the implementation of the Peace Agreement on Bosnia and Herzegovina, in accordance with the Peace Agreement and subsequent Peace Implementation Council declarations, and calls upon all parties to cooperate fully and in good faith with him;

6. *Stresses* the importance of the summit meeting of heads of State and Government to launch the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe in Sarajevo on 29 and 30 July 1999;

7. *Endorses* the concept of "ownership" as presented by the High Representative,[illegible] whereby the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina and, in particular, their political leaders, should assume more responsibility in the process of the implementation of the Peace Agreement;

8. *Recognizes* that the role of the international community remains essential, welcomes the readiness of the international community to continue its efforts towards a self-sustaining peace, and recalls that the responsibility for consolidating peace and security lies primarily with the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

9. *Welcomes* the vital contribution of the multinational Stabilization Force in providing a secure environment for the implementation of civilian aspects of the Peace Agreement, calls for the fullest cooperation by all parties in this regard, expresses its full support for the efforts of the United Nations International Police Task Force in carrying out its mandate, and commends its efforts in the establishment of the rule of law in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

10. *Underlines* the fact that the assistance provided by the international community remains strictly conditional upon compliance with the Peace Agreement and subsequent obligations, including, in particular, cooperation with the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 and facilitation of the return of refugees and displaced persons;

11. *Insists* upon the need to surrender all indictees to the International Tribunal for trial, notes that the Tribunal has the authority to address individual responsibility for the perpetration of the crime of genocide, crimes against humanity and other serious violations of international humanitarian law in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and demands that all the parties fulfil their obligations to hand over to the Tribunal all indicted persons in territories under their control and otherwise to comply fully with the orders of the Tribunal and to cooperate with the work of the Tribunal, including with exhumations and other investigative acts, in accordance with article 29 of the statute of the Tribunal, with all relevant Security Council resolutions and in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Peace Agreement, in particular the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

[illegible] S/1999/1179, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1999*.

[illegible] Ibid., appendix.

[illegible] S/1999/1115; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Supplement for October, November and December 1999*.

12. *Welcomes* the support given by Member States so far, and urges Member States, taking into account the orders and requests of the International Tribunal, to offer the Tribunal their full support, including financial support, in order to ensure the achievement of the purpose of the Tribunal, and to carry out their obligations under the statute of the Tribunal and all relevant Security Council resolutions;

13. *Reaffirms once again* the right of refugees and displaced persons to return voluntarily to their homes of origin in accordance with the Peace Agreement, in particular annex 7, and the realization of the same in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and host countries, calls upon all parties to improve substantially their cooperation with the international community at the State, entity and local levels, in order to establish immediately the conditions necessary for the return of refugees and displaced persons to their homes and for the freedom of movement and communication of all the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and calls upon the relevant international organizations to enhance the conditions to facilitate return, in accordance with relevant provisions of the Peace Agreement, in particular the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and welcomes continued and new efforts by the United Nations agencies, the European Union, bilateral and other donors and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to establish and implement projects designed to facilitate the early voluntary and orderly return of refugees and displaced persons to all regions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, including projects that would help to create a safe and secure environment with increased economic opportunity;

14. *Encourages* the acceleration of the peaceful, orderly and phased return of refugees and displaced persons, including in areas where they would be in the ethnic minority, strongly condemns all acts of intimidation, violence and killings, including those acts designed to discourage the voluntary return of refugees and displaced persons, and demands that such acts be investigated and prosecuted;

15. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 18 of resolution 53/35,[illegible] commends him for its thoroughness and candour, condemns the brutal acts described therein, deplores the appalling magnitude of the human tragedy that occurred before and after the fall of Srebrenica and Zepa, notes with deep concern the findings contained in the report, and therefore encourages the Secretary-General and Member States to address these concerns so as to prevent them from recurring in the future, as recommended in the report;

16. *Reaffirms* the previous conclusions of the Peace Implementation Council on the importance of reform of the media in Bosnia and Herzegovina, endorses the decision of the High Representative of 30 July 1999 on the restructuring of the public broadcasting system in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and calls upon the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to implement that decision in full;

17. *Stresses* the importance of establishing, strengthening and expanding throughout all of Bosnia and Herzegovina free and pluralistic media, deplores any action that seeks to intimidate or restrict the freedom of the media, and condemns violent acts of intimidation against journalists;

18. *Supports* the efforts of the High Representative in accordance with the Peace Agreement and subsequent Peace Implementation Council declarations to counter obstructionist conduct against the Peace Agreement and reconciliation efforts, and notes in this regard the decision of the High Representative of 29 November 1999 to remove twenty-two Bosnian public officials;

19. *Reaffirms once again its support* for the principle that all statements and commitments made under duress, in particular those regarding land and property, are wholly null and void, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Peace Agreement, and supports the effective engagement of the Commission for Real Property Claims of Displaced Persons and Refugees in compliance with its mandate;

20. *Endorses* the package of property law reforms imposed by the High Representative on 27 October 1999 aimed at harmonizing the laws in the two entities in order to enable refugees and displaced persons to return to their pre-war homes, as well as the subsequent action by the High Representative to ensure full implementation of the property implementation package, and calls upon the entity Parliaments to adopt those laws formally and to contribute actively to their speedy implementation;

21. *Emphasizes* the importance of economic revitalization and reconstruction for the successful consolidation of the peace process in Bosnia and Herzegovina, recognizes the important contribution of the international community in this regard, and invites it to continue its efforts;

22. *Notes* that corruption and the lack of transparency seriously hamper the economic development of Bosnia and Herzegovina, emphasizes the importance of combating corruption, welcomes the important contribution made in this regard by the Customs and Fiscal Assistance Office, and expresses its full support for the efforts of the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina and its local bodies and others that are supportive in this regard;

23. *Supports* the efforts by the High Representative and the Commander of the multinational Stabilization Force, in accordance with the Peace Agreement and subsequent Peace Implementation Council declarations, to weaken the continued political and economic influence of remaining parallel nationalist structures obstructing the peace implementation;

24. *Stresses* the need for a more comprehensive approach to economic reform, which should contribute to the more homogeneous development of the economy and trade in the two entities and across the inter-entity boundary line;

25. *Stresses* the importance of establishing an economic programme that should include the creation of a framework for private-sector development, including privatizations and improvement of foreign investment conditions, the restructuring of banking and capital markets, the reform of the financial system and adequate social protection;

26. *Welcomes* the final arbitration award on Brcko, expresses its support for implementation of the final arbitration award in accordance with the Peace Agreement, and stresses that the obligation to cooperate fully with the Supervisor for Brcko is an essential obligation for the two entities;

27. *Also welcomes* the commitment made by the Joint Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina at the summit meeting on the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe to reduce unilaterally by 15 per cent the military budgets, equipment and personnel strength of the two entities, effective 31 December 1999, with a significant subsequent reduction thereafter, and calls for the full implementation of those commitments;

28. *Stresses* the need for timely information about the level of cooperation and compliance with the International Tribunal and its orders, the status and programme for the return of refugees and displaced persons to and within Bosnia and Herzegovina and the status and implementation of the Agreement on Subregional Arms Control;

[illegible] A/54/549.

29. *Welcomes* the efforts of international regional organizations, Member States and non-governmental organizations, including through the Board of Donors, and the Slovenian International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and invites Member States to continue to support the mine-action activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

30. *Commends* the efforts of the international community, including the Council of Europe, the European Union, the European Community Monitoring Mission, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Monetary Fund, the multinational Stabilization Force, non-governmental organizations, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Peace Implementation Council and the World Bank, in their roles in the implementation of the Peace Agreement;

31. *Commends* in particular the efforts of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, the Office of the High Representative for the Implementation of the Peace Agreement on Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Office of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the territory of the former Yugoslavia, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations International Police Task Force, the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the United Nations Development Programme and the other United Nations agencies in the peace process, and encourages their further engagement in the peace process in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

32. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina".

RESOLUTIONS 54/189 A and B

A

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.58, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uzbekistan

B

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.58, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uzbekistan

54/189. Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan and the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

A

THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/88 B of 19 December 1995, 51/195 B of 17 December 1996, 52/211 B of 19 December 1997 and 53/203 A of 18 December 1998,

Recalling also Security Council resolutions 1193 (1998) of 28 August 1998, 1214 (1998) of 8 December 1998 and 1267 (1999) of 15 October 1999 and all statements of the President of the Security Council on the situation in Afghanistan,

Noting all recent declarations by participants of regional international meetings and by international organizations on the situation in Afghanistan,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, and respecting its multicultural, multi-ethnic and historical heritage,

Convinced that there is no military solution to the Afghan conflict and that only a political settlement aimed at the establishment of a broad-based, multi-ethnic and fully representative government acceptable to the Afghan people can lead to peace and reconciliation,

Stressing the importance of non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, and deeply concerned at all forms of continued external support, which is causing the prolongation and intensification of the conflict,

Expressing its grave concern at the failure of all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to put an end to the conflict, which seriously threatens stability and peace in the region, and welcoming the willingness of the United Front to talk to the Taliban in order to find a solution to the country's problems,

Deeply concerned by the increasingly ethnic nature of the conflict, by reports of persecution on the grounds of ethnic origin and religious persuasion and by the threat this poses to the unity of the Afghan State,

Strongly condemning the sharp escalation of the conflict, in particular after the launching of a new offensive by the Taliban in July 1999, only one week after the meeting of the "six plus two" group in Tashkent, despite the repeated demands by the Security Council and continuing attempts by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan to avert the Taliban offensive,

Noting with concern the resulting exacerbation of the enormous suffering of the Afghan people, including the massive loss of human life, summary executions, deliberate abuse and arbitrary detention of civilians, refugee flows, use of child soldiers, harassment, forcible displacement of innocent civilians and extensive destruction,

Expressing its grave concern at persistent violations of human rights and at breaches of international humanitarian law in Afghanistan, as exemplified by reports of mass killings and atrocities committed by combatants against civilians and prisoners of war, including the finding in the report of the United Nations investigation team for Afghanistan, submitted by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for

Human Rights,[216] that serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law took place in Afghanistan in 1997 and 1998,

Noting with alarm the massive displacement by the Taliban of the civilian population and, in particular, of women and children, in the Shomali Plains, as well as the indiscriminate destruction of their homes and agricultural land, thereby eliminating their source of income,

Expressing its grave concern at the continuing and substantiated reports of systematic human rights violations against women and girls, including all forms of discrimination against them, notably in areas under the control of the Taliban,

Strongly condemning the capture by Taliban militia of the Consulate-General of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the murder of Iranian diplomats and a journalist in Mazar-e Sharif, and stressing that these unacceptable acts, which constitute flagrant violations of established international law, must not go unpunished,

Deeply disturbed by the continuing use of Afghan territory, especially areas controlled by the Taliban, for the recruitment, sheltering and training of terrorists, including international terrorists, and the planning of terrorist acts within and outside Afghanistan,

Deeply disturbed also by the continuing use of Afghan territory, especially areas controlled by the Taliban, for the increasing cultivation and trafficking of drugs, as well as by the significant rise in the illicit production of opium, which contribute to the war-making capabilities of the Afghans and have dangerous repercussions reaching Afghanistan's neighbours and far beyond,

Reiterating that the United Nations, as a universally recognized and impartial intermediary, must continue to play the central role in international efforts towards a peaceful resolution of the Afghan conflict,

Expressing its appreciation for the efforts made in this regard by the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan and by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan, and noting with concern that, following years of continuing negotiation, insufficient cooperation with the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General by the parties to the conflict has led to the freezing of his activities,

Noting and welcoming the meeting of the "six plus two" group under the auspices of the United Nations, with the participation of representatives of the warring Afghan parties, held in Tashkent on 19 and 20 July 1999, and the Tashkent Declaration on Fundamental Principles for a Peaceful Settlement of the Conflict in Afghanistan[217] adopted on 19 July 1999, as well as the working meeting of the "six plus two" group at the level of foreign ministers, held in New York in September 1999,

Regretting recent reports by the Secretary-General indicating that the "six plus two" group has not yet had the desired impact on the warring parties in Afghanistan,

Welcoming the contacts between the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan and various non-warring Afghan parties and personalities, and supporting calls by these independent Afghans for an end to the fighting and any proposals that might advance the cause of peace, including the meeting, held in Rome from 22 to 25 November 1999, of a group of Afghan personalities aimed at the convening of a genuine *loya jirgah* to promote a political settlement,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[218] and endorses the observations and recommendations set out therein;

2. *Stresses* that the main responsibility for finding a political solution to the conflict lies with the Afghan parties, and urges all of them to respond to the repeated calls for peace by the United Nations;

3. *Calls upon* all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to cease immediately all armed hostilities, to renounce the use of force and to engage, without delay or preconditions, in a political dialogue under United Nations auspices aimed at achieving a lasting political settlement of the conflict by creating a broad-based, multi-ethnic and fully representative government, which would protect the rights of all Afghans and observe the international obligations of Afghanistan;

4. *Welcomes* the intra-Afghan meetings in Ashgabat at the beginning of 1999 and in Tashkent in July 1999, and urges all Afghan parties to take further confidence-building measures with a view to resuming direct intra-Afghan talks;

5. *Urges* the Taliban and other Afghan parties to refrain from all acts of violence against civilians, including women and children;

6. *Strongly condemns* the sharp escalation of the conflict, in particular after the launching of a new offensive by the Taliban in July 1999;

7. *Notes with distress* reports indicating the involvement in the fighting in Afghanistan, mainly on the side of the Taliban forces, of two thousand to five thousand non-Afghan nationals, mostly from religious schools, some of whom are still children;

8. *Strongly condemns* the fact that foreign military support to the Afghan parties continued unabated through 1999, and calls upon all States to refrain strictly from any outside interference and to end immediately the supply of arms, ammunition, military equipment, training or any other military support to all parties to the conflict in Afghanistan;

9. *Calls upon* all States to take resolute measures to prohibit their military personnel from planning and participating in combat operations in Afghanistan and immediately to withdraw their personnel and to assure that the supply of ammunition and other war-making materials is halted;

10. *Reiterates its position* that the United Nations must continue to play its central and impartial role in international efforts towards a peaceful resolution of the Afghan conflict;

11. *Reaffirms its full support* for the efforts of the United Nations in facilitating the political process towards the goal of national reconciliation and a lasting political settlement with the participation of all parties to the conflict and all segments of Afghan society, and fully supports, in particular, the comprehensive efforts of the Secretary-General, of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and those of the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan;

12. *Supports* the intention of the Secretary-General to strengthen the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan with a view to assuring its primary role in conducting United Nations peacemaking activities in Afghanistan, in particular by

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[216] A/54/626, annex, sect. X.

[217] A/54/174–S/1999/812, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999*, document S/1999/812.

[218] A/54/536–S/1999/1145; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1999*, document S/1999/1145.

appointing a new head of Mission, by progressively moving its head office to Kabul and by increasing its presence in neighbouring countries;

13. *Also supports* the intention of the Secretary-General to redouble the efforts of the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan to achieve a durable and equitable political settlement by facilitating an immediate and durable ceasefire and the resumption of a dialogue between the Afghan parties, by instituting a negotiating process leading to the formation of a broad-based, multi-ethnic and fully representative government of national unity and by continuing to work closely with all countries that are willing to help find a peaceful solution to the Afghan conflict, in particular with the members of the "six plus two" group, while continuing to monitor closely and encouraging the various peace initiatives of non-warring Afghan parties and personalities;

14. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Civil Affairs Unit within the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan, as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 53/203 A, and the efforts of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to ensure that the ongoing process of deployment of a first group of civil affairs officers, including a coordinator for the Civil Affairs Unit, is completed as soon as possible;

15. *Also welcomes* the constitution of groups of interested States to coordinate their efforts as well as the activities of international organizations, in particular the Organization of the Islamic Conference, and encourages those organizations and States, in particular the "six plus two" group, to use their influence in a constructive manner in support of and in close coordination with the United Nations to promote peace in Afghanistan;

16. *Supports* the intention of the Secretary-General to continue to work with the "six plus two" group, to seek ways of improving the creativity and effectiveness of the group so as to ensure its more constructive and concrete involvement in a peaceful resolution of the conflict in Afghanistan and to consult other States on supplementary measures that could be taken in the search for peace;

17. *Calls upon* all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, and countries concerned to increase their level of cooperation within the framework of the peacemaking efforts of the United Nations with a view to enabling the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan to renew his active involvement in these efforts as soon as possible;

18. *Calls upon* all signatories to the Tashkent Declaration on Fundamental Principles for a Peaceful Settlement of the Conflict in Afghanistan[217] and the Afghan parties to implement the principles contained in the Declaration in support of the efforts of the United Nations towards a peaceful resolution of the Afghan conflict, in particular the agreement of members of the "six plus two" group not to provide military support to any Afghan party and to prevent the use of their territories for such purposes, and recalls their appeal to the international community to take identical measures to prevent the delivery of weapons to Afghanistan;

19. *Reiterates its strong condemnation* of the armed attacks against United Nations personnel in the summer of 1998 and the recent attacks against United Nations personnel and property following the imposition of sanctions against the Taliban by the Security Council;

20. *Expresses deep concern* at the lack of tangible progress in the Taliban's investigations of the death, serious injury or disappearance of international or national staff members and other persons employed by the United Nations, in particular the killing of the two Afghan staff members of the World Food Programme and of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Jalalabad and of the Military Adviser to the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan in Kabul, and once again urges the Taliban to proceed with the immediate and thorough investigation of these cases and to inform the United Nations about the progress of their investigation without further delay;

21. *Reiterates its strong condemnation* of the killing of the diplomatic and consular staff of the Consulate-General of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Mazar-e Sharif and the correspondent of the Islamic Republic News Agency, expresses deep concern at the lack of progress in the Taliban's investigation of the murders, and once again urges the Taliban to carry out, without further delay, a credible investigation with a view to prosecuting the guilty parties and to inform the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United Nations about the results thereof;

22. *Urges* all Afghan parties to recognize, protect and promote all human rights and freedoms, including the right to life, liberty and security of persons, regardless of gender, ethnicity or religion;

23. *Calls upon* all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to end discriminatory policies against women and girls, including policies regarding their rights to education, work and equal health care, and to recognize, protect and promote the equal rights and dignity of men and women;

24. *Condemns* the continuing widespread violations of international humanitarian law in Afghanistan, and urgently calls upon all Afghan parties to respect strictly all its provisions that provide essential protection for the civilian population in armed conflicts;

25. *Strongly demands* that all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, refrain from providing sanctuary or training for international terrorists and their organizations, cease the recruitment of terrorists, close down terrorist training camps inside Afghanistan, take effective measures to ensure that the territory under its control is not used for terrorist organizations and camps and take the necessary steps to cooperate with efforts to bring indicted terrorists to justice without delay;

26. *Condemns* the acts of terrorists based in Afghanistan, including those in support of extremist groups operating against the interests of Member States and against their citizens, deplores the fact that the Taliban continues to provide safe haven to Usama bin Laden and to allow him and others associated with him to use Afghanistan as a base from which to sponsor international terrorist operations, recalls that the Security Council in its resolution 1267 (1999) has demanded that the Taliban turn over Usama bin Laden without further delay, and urges the Taliban to comply;

27. *Reiterates its call* to all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to halt all illegal drug activities and to support international efforts to ban illicit drug production and trafficking, and calls upon all Member States and all parties concerned to undertake concerted measures to stop the trafficking of illegal drugs from Afghanistan;

28. *Takes note* of the severe impact of the illicit drug production and trafficking on Afghanistan's immediate neighbours, and calls for further international cooperation in support of the efforts of the neighbouring States to stop the trafficking of illegal drugs from Afghanistan;

29. *Requests* the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to continue its crop monitoring and other work inside Afghanistan, including its alternative development pilot projects, and to further develop international measures against drug trafficking;

30. *Reiterates* that the cultural and historic relics and monuments of Afghanistan belong to the common heritage of mankind, calls upon all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to protect the cultural and historic relics and monuments of Afghanistan from acts of vandalism, damage and theft, and requests all Member States to take appropriate measures to prevent the looting of cultural artifacts and to ensure their return to Afghanistan;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly every three months during its fifty-fourth session on the progress of the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

32. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security".

B

EMERGENCY INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR PEACE, NORMALCY AND RECONSTRUCTION OF WAR-STRICKEN AFGHANISTAN

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/88 A of 19 December 1995, 51/195 A of 17 December 1996, 52/211 A of 19 December 1997 and 53/203 B of 18 December 1998,

Expressing its grave concern about the continuation of the military confrontation in Afghanistan, threatening regional peace and security and causing massive loss of life and extensive human suffering, further destruction of property, serious damage to the economic and social infrastructure, refugee flows and other forcible displacements of large numbers of people,

Noting with deep concern that the people of Afghanistan continue to suffer from a serious loss of their human rights, which can be largely attributed to the effects of decades of warfare that continues to create a worsening humanitarian crisis,

Remaining deeply concerned about the problem of millions of anti-personnel landmines and unexploded ordnance as well as the continued laying of new anti-personnel landmines in Afghanistan, which continue to prevent many Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons from returning to their villages and working in their fields,

Deeply disturbed by the continuing security threat to United Nations personnel and other humanitarian personnel, including locally engaged staff, and by various impediments to their access to affected populations,

Expressing its grave concern at the serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, in particular by the Taliban, in Afghanistan and at the inadequacy of measures taken by the warring factions to reverse the situation,

Deeply concerned by the continuing and substantiated reports of violations of human rights, in particular of women and girls, including all forms of discrimination against them, notably in areas under the control of the Taliban,

Welcoming the ongoing work of gender and human rights advisers appointed by the United Nations, who form an integral part of the office of the United Nations resident and humanitarian coordinator in Afghanistan,

Welcoming the visit of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences to Afghanistan in September 1999, and looking forward to her conclusions and recommendations,

Expressing its grave concern for the well-being of internally displaced persons, particularly in Kabul and in the Panjshir, Bamian and Kunduz regions, and the civilian population of Afghanistan living without shelter, who face a long winter possibly deprived of basic foods as a result of the recent fighting, as well as the denial by the warring factions of adequate conditions for the delivery of aid by humanitarian organizations,

Distressed by the loss of life caused by earthquakes and epidemics, and expressing its appreciation to all States, international agencies and non-governmental organizations that have provided emergency relief,

Affirming the urgent need to continue international humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan for the restoration of basic services, as well as the need for the conflicting parties to guarantee the safety and security of the personnel of all international organizations,

Welcoming the principle-centred approach towards humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation in Afghanistan as outlined in the Strategic Framework for Afghanistan and in the document entitled "Next Steps for the United Nations in Afghanistan", and the common programming mechanisms introduced by the United Nations, and also welcoming the initiative to establish an independent strategic monitoring unit,

Expressing its gratitude to all Governments that have rendered assistance to Afghan refugees, and, at the same time, calling on all parties to continue to honour their obligations for the protection of refugees and internally displaced persons and to allow international access for their protection and care,

Recognizing the need for continuing international assistance for the maintenance abroad and the voluntary repatriation and resettlement of refugees and internally displaced persons, and welcoming the voluntary return of refugees to rural districts in Afghanistan that are relatively stable and secure,

Expressing its appreciation to the United Nations system, to all States and international and non-governmental organizations that have responded positively and continue to respond, where conditions permit, to the humanitarian needs of Afghanistan, as well as to the Secretary-General for his efforts in mobilizing and coordinating the delivery of appropriate humanitarian assistance,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[219] and endorses the observations contained therein;

2. *Stresses* that the responsibility for the humanitarian crisis lies with all warring parties, in particular with the Taliban;

3. *Strongly condemns* the recent fighting in the Shomali Plains and the forced displacement of civilian populations, the torching of residential houses, the burning of crops, the cutting of fruit trees and the deliberate destruction of infrastructure;

4. *Calls upon* all relevant organizations of the United Nations system to continue to coordinate closely their humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan on the basis of the Strategic Framework for Afghanistan, in particular to assure a consistent approach on matters of principle, human rights and security, and appeals to donor countries as well as other humanitarian organizations to cooperate closely with the United Nations, taking into account the inter-agency

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[219] A/54/297.

consolidated appeal for emergency humanitarian and rehabilitation assistance to Afghanistan for 2000;

5. *Calls upon* the leaders of all Afghan parties to place the highest priority on national reconciliation, acknowledging the desire of the Afghan people for rehabilitation, reconstruction and economic and social development;

6. *Urges* all Afghan parties to respect international humanitarian law and to ensure the safety, security and free movement of all United Nations and humanitarian personnel and the protection of the property of the United Nations and of humanitarian organizations, including non-governmental organizations, so as to facilitate their work;

7. *Demands* that all Afghan parties cooperate fully with the United Nations and associated bodies as well as with other agencies and humanitarian organizations in their efforts to respond to the humanitarian needs of the people of Afghanistan, and urges them to secure the uninterrupted supply of humanitarian aid to all in need of it;

8. *Condemns* all blockades or other interference in the delivery of humanitarian relief supplies to the Afghan people as a violation of international humanitarian law, and notes the recent lifting of the blockade in central Afghanistan by the Taliban;

9. *Strongly condemns* the recent acts of violence in Kabul, Farah, Kandahar, Mazar-e Sharif, Kunduz and Jalalabad directed against United Nations offices and personnel;

10. *Urges* all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to ensure safe and unimpeded access for and to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance, in particular the supply of food, medicine, shelter and health care, especially in the Panjshir Valley;

11. *Takes note* of the Supplementary Protocol to the Memorandum of Understanding of 13 May 1998, signed by the United Nations and the Taliban, on the security of United Nations personnel in Afghanistan, and urges the Taliban to take the necessary steps for its full implementation;

12. *Denounces* the continuing discrimination against girls and women as well as ethnic and religious groups, including minorities, and other violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in Afghanistan, notably in areas under the control of the Taliban, notes with deep concern their adverse effects on international relief and reconstruction programmes in Afghanistan, and calls upon all parties within Afghanistan to respect fully the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, regardless of gender, ethnicity or religion, in accordance with international human rights instruments, *inter alia*, the International Covenants on Human Rights;[220]

13. *Strongly urges* all of the Afghan parties to end discriminatory policies and to recognize, protect and promote the equal rights and dignity of women and men, including their rights to full and equal participation in the life of the country, freedom of movement, access to education and health facilities, employment outside the home, personal security and freedom from intimidation and harassment, in particular with respect to the implications of discriminatory policies for the distribution of aid, notwithstanding some progress made with respect to access to education and health care for girls and women;

14. *Urges* all Afghan parties to prohibit conscripting or enlisting children or using them to participate in hostilities in violation of international law;

15. *Appeals* to all States and to the international community to ensure that all humanitarian assistance to the people of Afghanistan integrates a gender perspective, that it actively attempts to promote the participation of both women and men and that women benefit equally with men from such assistance;

16. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that continue to host Afghan refugees, appeals to the Governments concerned to reaffirm their commitment to international refugee law on the rights of asylum and protection, and calls upon the international community to do so and to consider providing further assistance to Afghan refugees;

17. *Expresses concern* over the continued laying of anti-personnel landmines, and urges all Afghan parties to put a complete halt to the use of landmines, which continues to take a heavy toll on civilians and seriously impedes the delivery of humanitarian assistance;

18. *Urgently appeals* to all States, the United Nations system and international and non-governmental organizations to continue to provide, when conditions on the ground permit, all possible financial, technical and material assistance for the Afghan population and the voluntary, safe and secure return of refugees and internally and forcibly displaced persons;

19. *Calls upon* the international community to respond to the inter-agency consolidated appeal for emergency humanitarian and rehabilitation assistance for Afghanistan, launched by the Secretary-General on 23 November 1999 for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2000, bearing in mind the availability also of the Afghanistan Emergency Trust Fund;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the actions taken pursuant to the present resolution;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session, under the cluster of items on coordination of humanitarian assistance, the sub-item entitled "Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan".

RESOLUTION 54/190

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.47/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Fiji, Gabon, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Morocco, Nigeria, Peru, Republic of Korea, Romania, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine

54/190. Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 3026 A (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, 3148 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, 3187 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, 3391 (XXX) of 19 November 1975, 31/40 of 30 November 1976, 32/18 of 11 November 1977, 33/50 of 14 December 1978, 34/64 of 29 November 1979, 35/127 and 35/128 of 11 December 1980, 36/64 of 27 November 1981, 38/34 of 25 November 1983, 40/19 of 21 November 1985, 42/7 of 22 October 1987, 44/18 of 6 November 1989, 46/10 of 22 October 1991, 48/15 of 2 November 1993, 50/56 of 11 December 1995 and 52/24 of 25 November 1997,

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[220] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Recalling the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict,[221] adopted at The Hague on 14 May 1954,

Recalling also the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property,[222] adopted on 14 November 1970 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

Recalling further the Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects,[223] adopted at Rome on 24 June 1995 by the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law,

Recalling the Medellín Declaration for Cultural Diversity and Tolerance and the Plan of Action on Cultural Cooperation, adopted at the first Meeting of the Ministers of Culture of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Medellín, Colombia, on 4 and 5 September 1997,

Taking note with interest of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[224]

Aware of the importance attached by the countries of origin to the return of cultural property which is of fundamental spiritual and cultural value to them, so that they may constitute collections representative of their cultural heritage,

Expressing concern about the loss, destruction, damage, removal, theft, pillage or misappropriation of and any acts of vandalism directed against cultural property in areas of armed conflict and territories that are occupied,

Also expressing concern about the illicit traffic in cultural property and its damages on the cultural heritage of nations,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation on the work they have accomplished, in particular through the promotion of bilateral negotiations, for the return or restitution of cultural property, the preparation of inventories of movable cultural property, the reduction of illicit traffic in cultural property and the dissemination of information to the public;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the provisions of the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict,[221] and invites Member States which have not already done so to become parties to the Convention and facilitate its implementation;

3. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Second Protocol to the Convention, adopted at The Hague on 26 March 1999, and invites all States Parties to the Convention to consider becoming parties to the Second Protocol to the Convention;

4. *Reaffirms* the importance of the provisions of the Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects,[223] invites those Member States which have not already done so to consider becoming parties to the Convention;

5. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental organizations to work in coordination with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, within their mandates and in cooperation with Member States, in order to continue to address the issue of return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin, and to provide appropriate support accordingly;

6. *Invites* Member States to continue drawing up, in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, systematic inventories of their cultural property;

7. *Commends* the efforts of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to encourage the linking of existing databases and identification systems, taking into account the one developed by the International Criminal Police Organization, to allow for electronic transmission of information in order to reduce illicit trafficking in cultural property, and encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to make further efforts in this regard in cooperation with Member States, where appropriate;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to cooperate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in its efforts to develop all possibilities, including any further initiatives, for bringing about the attainment of the objectives of the present resolution;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin".

RESOLUTION 54/191

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.71, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America

54/191. Assistance in mine action

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/7 of 19 October 1993, 49/215 of 23 December 1994, 50/82 of 14 December 1995, 51/149 of 13 December 1996 and 52/173 of 18 December 1997 on assistance in mine clearance and its resolution 53/26 of 17 November 1998 on assistance in mine action, all adopted without a vote,

Considering mine action to be an important component of United Nations humanitarian and development activities,

Reaffirming its deep concern at the tremendous humanitarian problem caused by the presence of mines and other unexploded devices that have serious and lasting social and economic consequences for the populations of mine-infested countries and constitute an obstacle to the return of refugees and other displaced persons, to humanitarian aid operations and to reconstruction and economic development, as well as to the restoration of normal social conditions,

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[221] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 249, No. 3511.

[222] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Sixteenth Session, Paris, 12 October–14 November 1970*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*, p. 135.

[223] See www.unidroit.org.

[224] A/54/436.

Bearing in mind the serious threat that mines and other unexploded devices pose to the safety, health and lives of personnel participating in humanitarian, peacekeeping and rehabilitation programmes and operations,

Reiterating its dismay at the high number of victims of mines, especially among civilian populations, particularly children, and recalling in this context Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1995/79 of 8 March 1995,[225] 1996/85 of 24 April 1996,[226] 1997/78 of 18 April 1997,[227] 1998/76 of 22 April 1998[228] and 1999/80 of 28 April 1999[229] on the rights of the child and resolutions 1996/27 of 19 April 1996[226] and 1998/31 of 17 April 1998[228] and decision 1997/107 of 11 April 1997[227] on the human rights of persons with disabilities,

Deeply alarmed by the number of mines that continue to be laid each year, as well as the presence of a large number of mines and other unexploded devices as a result of armed conflicts, and thus convinced of the necessity and urgency of a significant increase in mine-clearance efforts by the international community with a view to eliminating the threat of landmines to civilians as soon as possible,

Noting the decisions taken at the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[230] particularly with respect to Protocol II to the Convention and the inclusion in the Amended Protocol[231] of a number of provisions of importance for mine-clearance operations, notably the requirement of detectability,

Noting the entry into force of the Amended Protocol II to the Convention on 3 December 1998,

Recalling that the States parties at the Review Conference declared their commitment to keep the provisions of Protocol II under review in order to ensure that the concerns regarding the weapons it covers are addressed, and that they would encourage efforts of the United Nations and other organizations to address all the problems of landmines,

Noting the entry into force on 1 March 1999 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[232] and that the Convention has been signed by over one hundred and thirty-five States, that the First Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention was held at Maputo in May 1999 and that measures were taken at that meeting to, among other things, provide assistance for mine clearance and rehabilitation, the social and economic reintegration of mine victims and mine-awareness programmes,

Stressing the need to convince mine-affected States to halt new deployments of anti-personnel mines in order to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of mine-clearance operations,

Recognizing the important role that the international community, particularly States involved in the deployment of mines, can play in assisting mine clearance in mine-affected countries through the provision of necessary maps and information and appropriate technical and material assistance to remove or otherwise render ineffective existing minefields, mines and booby traps,

Concerned about the limited availability of safe and cost-effective mine-detection and mine-clearance equipment as well as the need for effective global coordination in research and development to improve the relevant technology, and conscious of the need to promote further and more rapid progress in this field and to foster international technical cooperation to this end,

Recognizing that, in addition to the primary role of States, the United Nations has an important role in the field of assistance in mine action,

Welcoming in this regard the mine-action coordination centres already established under the auspices of the United Nations as well as the creation of international trust funds for mine clearance and mine assistance,

Noting with satisfaction the inclusion in the mandates of several peacekeeping operations of provisions relating to mine-action work carried out under the direction of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat, in the context of such operations,

Commending the action already taken by the United Nations system, donor and recipient Governments, the International Committee of the Red Cross and non-governmental organizations to coordinate their efforts and seek solutions to the problems related to the presence of mines and other unexploded devices, as well as their assistance to victims of mines,

Also commending the role of the Secretary-General in increasing public awareness of the problem of landmines,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General concerning the activities of the United Nations in assistance in mine action,[233] in particular the emphasis on the lessons learned, and the recommendation to improve the emergency preparedness capability of the Organization;

2. *Calls*, in particular, for the continuation of the efforts of the United Nations, with the assistance of States and institutions as appropriate, to foster the establishment of mine-action capacities in countries where mines constitute a serious threat to the safety, health and lives of the local population, also calls for the extension of these efforts to countries where mines are an impediment to social and economic development efforts at the national and local levels, emphasizes the importance of developing national mine-action capacities, and urges all Member States, particularly those that have the capacity to do so, to assist mine-affected countries in the establishment and development of national capacities in mine clearance, mine awareness and victim assistance;

3. *Invites* Member States to develop national programmes, in cooperation with the relevant bodies of the United Nations system where appropriate, to promote awareness of landmines, especially among children;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to Governments, regional organizations and other donors for their financial and in-kind contributions to mine action, including contributions for emergency operations and for national capacity-building programmes;

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[225] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[226] Ibid., *1996, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/1996/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[227] Ibid., *1997, Supplement No. 3* (E/1997/23), chap. II.

[228] Ibid., *1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[229] Ibid., *1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[230] CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I).

[231] Ibid., annex B.

[232] See CD/1478.

[233] A/54/445.

5. *Appeals* to Governments, regional organizations and other donors to continue their support to mine action through further contributions, including contributions through the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action to allow for the timely delivery of mine-action assistance in emergency situations;

6. *Encourages* all relevant multilateral and national programmes and bodies to include, in coordination with the United Nations, activities related to mine action in their humanitarian, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development assistance activities, where appropriate, bearing in mind the need to ensure national ownership, sustainability and capacity-building;

7. *Stresses* the importance of international support for emergency assistance to victims of mines and for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of the victims, and also stresses that such assistance should be integrated into broader public health and socio-economic strategies;

8. *Encourages* Governments, relevant United Nations bodies and other donors to take further action to promote gender- and age-appropriate mine-awareness programmes, victim assistance and child-centred rehabilitation, thereby reducing the number of child victims and relieving their plight;

9. *Emphasizes again* the important role of the United Nations in the effective coordination of mine- action activities, including those by regional organizations, and especially the role of the Mine Action Service of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat on the basis of the policy on mine action and effective coordination developed by the Secretary-General in annex II to his report;[234]

10. *Emphasizes* in this regard the role of the Mine Action Service as the focal point for mine action within the United Nations system and its ongoing collaboration with and coordination of all the mine-related activities of the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes;

11. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to develop further a comprehensive mine-action strategy, taking into consideration the impact of the landmine problem on rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, with a view to ensuring the effectiveness of assistance in mine action by the United Nations, and emphasizes in this respect the importance of further multisectoral assessments and surveys;

12. *Emphasizes* in this respect the importance of developing a comprehensive information management system for mine action, under the overall coordination of the Mine Action Service and with the support of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, in order to facilitate the setting of priorities and the coordination of field activities;

13. *Welcomes* recent approaches with regard to the establishment of mine-action coordination centres, encourages the further establishment of such centres, especially in emergency situations, and also encourages States to support the activities of mine-action coordination centres and trust funds established to coordinate assistance in mine action under the auspices of the Mine Action Service;

14. *Urges* Member States, regional, governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to continue to extend full assistance and cooperation to the Secretary-General and, in particular, to provide him with information and data as well as other appropriate resources that could be useful in strengthening the coordination role of the United Nations in mine action, particularly in the fields of mine awareness, training, surveying, detection and clearance, scientific research on mine detection and clearance technology and information on and distribution of medical equipment and supplies;

15. *Emphasizes* in this regard the importance of recording the location of mines, of retaining all such records and making them available to concerned parties upon cessation of hostilities, and welcomes the strengthening of the relevant provisions in international law;

16. *Calls upon* Member States, especially those that have the capacity to do so, to provide the necessary information and technical and material assistance, as appropriate, and to locate, remove, destroy or otherwise render ineffective minefields, mines, booby traps and other devices in accordance with international law, as soon as possible;

17. *Urges* Member States and regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations that have the ability to do so to provide, as appropriate, technological assistance to mine-infested countries and to promote scientific research and development on humanitarian mine-action techniques and technology so that mine-action activities may be carried out more effectively at lower costs and through safer means and to promote international collaboration in this regard;

18. *Encourages* Member States and regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to continue to support ongoing activities to promote appropriate technology, as well as international operational and safety standards for humanitarian mine-action activities, and in this context welcomes the initiation of the revision of international mine-clearance standards and the development of guidelines for the use of mine-detection dogs and mechanical mine-clearance equipment, as well as the development of an international test and evaluation programme;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the progress achieved on all relevant issues outlined both in his previous reports to the Assembly on assistance in mine clearance and mine action and in the present resolution, including progress made by the International Committee of the Red Cross and other international and regional organizations as well as national programmes, and on the operation of the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action and other mine-action programmes;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Assistance in mine action".

RESOLUTION 54/192

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.70, sponsored by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America

54/192. Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations,

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[234] A/53/496.

Recalling its resolutions 53/87 of 7 December 1998 on safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel, 52/167 of 16 December 1997 on safety and security of humanitarian personnel and 52/126 of 12 December 1997 on protection of United Nations personnel,

Welcoming agreed conclusions 1999/1 adopted by the Economic and Social Council at the humanitarian affairs segment of its substantive session of 1999,[235]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on protection of civilians in armed conflicts,[236] Security Council resolution 1265 (1999) of 17 September 1999 and the recommendations made therein, the statement of the President of the Security Council of 12 February 1999[237] and the range of views expressed during the open debates of the Security Council on 12 February 1999[238] and 16 and 17 September 1999,[239] on protection of civilians in armed conflicts, and bearing in mind the statements made by the President of the Council on 19 June 1997[240] and 29 September 1998,[241] on protection for humanitarian assistance to refugees and others in conflict situations, as well as the statement made by the President of the Council on 8 July 1999[242] on maintenance of peace and security and post-conflict peace-building,

Recalling the fiftieth anniversary on 12 August 1999 of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[243] which reaffirmed the need to promote and ensure respect for the principles and rules of international humanitarian law,

Noting with satisfaction the entry into force on 15 January 1999 of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 9 December 1994,[244]

Deeply concerned by the growing number of complex humanitarian emergencies in the last few years, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, which have dramatically increased the loss of human lives, in particular of civilians, the suffering of victims, flows of refugees and internally displaced persons, as well as material destruction, which disrupt the development efforts of countries affected, in particular those of developing countries,

Concerned by the increasingly difficult context in which humanitarian assistance takes place in some areas, in particular the continuous erosion, in many cases, of respect for the principles and rules of international humanitarian law,

Strongly deploring the rising toll of casualties among national and international humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, and strongly condemning the acts of murder and other forms of physical violence, abduction, hostage-taking, kidnapping, harassment and illegal arrest and detention to which those participating in humanitarian operations are increasingly exposed, as well as acts of destruction and looting of their property,

Recalling that primary responsibility under international law for the security and protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel lies with the Government hosting a United Nations operation conducted under the Charter of the United Nations or its agreements with relevant organizations,

Urging all other parties involved in armed conflicts, in compliance with their obligations under the 1949 Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols thereto,[245] to ensure the security and protection of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel,

Expressing concern that the occurrence of attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel is a factor that increasingly restricts the ability of the Organization to provide assistance and protection to civilians in fulfilment of its mandate and Charter,

Recognizing the fundamental requirement that consideration be given to incorporating into all new and ongoing United Nations field operations appropriate modalities for the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel,

Emphasizing the need to give further consideration to the safety and security of locally recruited humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel, who count for the majority of casualties,

Welcoming the inclusion of attacks intentionally directed against personnel involved in a humanitarian assistance or peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations as a war crime in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, adopted on 17 July 1998,[246] and noting the role that the Court could play in bringing to justice those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law,

Commending the courage and commitment of those who take part in humanitarian operations, often at great personal risk,

Guided by the relevant provisions on protection contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[247] the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies,[248] the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949[249] and Additional Protocols of 8 June 1977[245] and Protocol II to the

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[235] A/54/3, chap. VI, para. 5. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1).

[236] A/54/619 and S/1999/957; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999*, document S/1999/957.

[237] S/PRST/1999/6; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1999*.

[238] See S/PV.4046, S/PV.4046 (Resumption 1) and Corr.2 and S/PV.4046 (Resumption 2). For the final text, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year*, 4046th meeting.

[239] See S/PV.3977 and S/PV.3978. For the final text, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year*, 3977th and 3978th meetings.

[240] S/PRST/1997/34; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1997*.

[241] S/PRST/1998/30; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1998*.

[242] S/PRST/1999/21; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1999*.

[243] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[244] Resolution 49/59, annex.

[245] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[246] A/CONF.183/9.

[247] Resolution 22 A (I).

[248] Resolution 179 (II).

[249] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects of 10 October 1980,[250]

1. *Urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the full and effective implementation of the relevant principles and rules of international humanitarian law, as well as relevant provisions of human rights law related to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel;

2. *Also urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel and to respect and ensure respect for the inviolability of United Nations premises, which are essential to the continuation and successful implementation of United Nations operations;

3. *Calls upon* all Governments and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, in countries where humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel in order to allow them to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

4. *Strongly condemns* any act or failure to act which obstructs or prevents humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel from discharging their humanitarian functions, or which entails their being subjected to threats, the use of force or physical attack frequently resulting in injury or death, and affirms the need to hold accountable those who commit such acts;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure full respect for the human rights, privileges and immunities of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation and to continue to consider ways and means to strengthen the protection of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation, notably by seeking the inclusion, in negotiations of headquarters and other mission agreements concerning United Nations and its associated personnel, of the applicable conditions contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[247] the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies[248] and the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;[244]

6. *Urges* all States to ensure that any threat or act of violence committed against humanitarian personnel on their territory is fully investigated and to take all appropriate measures, in accordance with international law and national legislation, to ensure that the perpetrators of such acts are prosecuted;

7. *Also urges* all States to provide adequate and prompt information in the event of arrest or detention of humanitarian personnel or United Nations personnel, to afford them the necessary medical assistance and to allow independent medical teams to visit and examine the health of those detained, and further urges all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the speedy release of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation who have been arrested or detained in violation of their immunity, in accordance with the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law;

8. *Calls upon* all States to consider signing and ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;[249]

9. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel to observe and respect the national laws of the country in which they are operating, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures, falling within his responsibilities, to ensure that security matters are an integral part of the planning for existing and newly mandated United Nations operations and that such precautions extend to all United Nations and its associated personnel;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with United Nations agencies and other relevant international organizations, to compile examples of best practices, obstacles encountered and lessons learned with regard to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel, to ensure that this information is widely disseminated in the field and to include in his comprehensive report to it at its fifty-fifth session on the subject of the present resolution detailed information in this regard;

12. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure that United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation are properly informed about the conditions under which they are called to operate, including relevant customs and traditions in the host country, and the standards that they are required to meet, including those contained in relevant domestic and international law, and that adequate training in security, human rights and humanitarian law, as well as stress counselling, are provided so as to enhance their security and effectiveness in accomplishing their functions, and reaffirms the necessity for all other humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

13. *Encourages* all States to contribute to the Trust Fund for Security of personnel of the United Nations system, and welcomes the inclusion of security components in the consolidated appeals to advance the cause of inter-agency security coordination;

14. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen the Office of United Nations Security Coordinator and the need for a full time Security Coordinator to enable the Office to enhance its capacity in the discharge of its duties, in consultation with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and appropriate agencies within the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

15. *Encourages* all States to become parties to and respect fully their obligations under the relevant international instruments, including the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;

16. *Welcomes* the addendum on the safety and security of United Nations and humanitarian personnel to the Secretary-General's report on strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations,[251] and requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-fifth session a comprehensive report on

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[250] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 5: 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IX.4), appendix VII.

[251] A/54/154/Add.1–E/1999/94/Add.1.

the safety and security situation of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel, including an account of the measures taken by Governments and the United Nations in prevention of and in response to all individual security incidents involving the arrest, hostage-taking or death of United Nations and its associated personnel;

17. *Recognizes* the urgency to consult further to address the recommendations contained in the above-mentioned addendum, to that end requests the Secretary-General to submit by May 2000, for its consideration during its fifty-fourth session, a report containing a detailed analysis and recommendations addressing the scope of legal protection under the 1994 Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, and in this regard takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on protection of civilians in armed conflicts[249] and the range of views expressed during the open debates of the Security Council on 12 February 1999[250] and 16 and 17 September 1999,[251] on protection of civilians in armed conflicts.

RESOLUTION 54/193

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.36, sponsored by: Argentina, Austria, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Italy, Jamaica, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

54/193. International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, in particular its resolution 53/95 of 8 December 1998 on the situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti,

Taking note of Security Council resolution 1212 (1998) of 25 November 1998, in which the Council decided to extend the mandate of the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti until 30 November 1999 and, in particular, paragraph 11, in which the Secretary-General was requested to make recommendations on a viable transition to other forms of international assistance,

Having considered the report presented by the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti to the Economic and Social Council[252] and the recommendations contained therein, and noting with satisfaction the contribution made by the Economic and Social Council,

Welcoming Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/11 of 27 July 1999, in which the Economic and Social Council, *inter alia*, emphasized the need to establish the necessary mechanisms to develop on a priority basis a long-term strategy and programme of support for Haiti,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted on the question by the Organization of American States, commending the contribution of the organization to the International Civilian Mission in Haiti, and inviting the organization to pursue its cooperation with the United Nations in Haiti,

Taking into account the recommendations of the Secretary-General contained in his reports on the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti to the Security Council[253] and in his reports to the General Assembly on the International Civilian Mission in Haiti[254] and on the needs assessment mission,[255]

Recognizing the efforts made by the Secretary-General, his representatives, the Organization of American States and its Secretary-General and the group of Friends of the Secretary-General on Haiti and their constant support and contribution to the continuing consolidation of the political, economic and social institutions in Haiti, and supporting fully the efforts already undertaken by the Civilian Mission and the Civilian Police Mission, as well as those by individual Member States,

Encouraged by the efforts made by the people and the Government of Haiti to consolidate democracy and to improve respect for human rights and the rule of law,

Recognizing that the people and the Government of Haiti bear the ultimate responsibility for the reconstruction of their country, in particular for national reconciliation and the maintenance of a secure and stable environment, and taking note of the plan of action developed by the Haitian Government, in particular for the administration of justice,

Taking note of the request of 8 November 1999 from the President of Haiti to the Secretary-General,[256]

1. *Affirms* the will of the United Nations to continue to accompany Haiti in its democratic, economic and social development, in particular during the next crucial period;

2. *Decides*, at the request of the President of Haiti, to establish the International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti to consolidate the results achieved by the International Civilian Mission in Haiti, the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti and previous United Nations missions;

3. *Also decides* that the initial mandate of the International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti will begin at the closing of the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti and continue until 6 February 2001 and that the mandate of the International Civilian Mission in Haiti will continue until the commencement of the International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti;

4. *Further decides* that the personnel and goods of the International Civilian Mission in Haiti and the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti will be transferred to the International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti, as needed;

5. *Decides*, pursuant to the request of the Government of Haiti, that the International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti shall have, in accordance with the recommendations of the Secretary-General, the following mandate:

(*a*) To support the democratization process and assist the Haitian authorities with the development of democratic institutions;

(*b*) To assist the Haitian authorities in the reform and the strengthening of the Haitian system of justice, including its penal institutions, and to promote the Office of the Ombudsman;

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[252] E/1999/103.

[253] S/1999/908 and S/1999/1184; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999* and ibid., *Supplement for October, November and December 1999*.

[254] A/54/625.

[255] A/54/629.

[256] Ibid., appendix.

(c) To support the efforts of the Government of Haiti to professionalize the Haitian National Police through a special training and technical assistance programme and help the Government to coordinate bilateral and multilateral aid in this area;

(d) To support the efforts of the Government of Haiti aimed at the full observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(e) To provide technical assistance for the organization of democratic elections and to collaborate with the Government of Haiti in the coordination of bilateral and multilateral assistance;

6. *Underlines* the importance of full coordination and transparency, including among multilateral and bilateral contributors, and, in this regard, decides that the Representative of the Secretary-General and head of the Mission will have overall authority over all United Nations activities in Haiti and, as appropriate, act as the focal point for coordinating the activities of the international community and facilitating its continuing dialogue with key political and social actors in Haiti, assisted by a committee of representatives of police contributors and international donors and in close liaison with the Government of Haiti;

7. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Economic and Social Council contained in resolution 1999/11, *inter alia*, its request that the Secretary-General take the necessary steps, in agreement with the Government of Haiti, and making use of the appropriate United Nations presence there, to develop on a priority basis a long-term strategy and programme of support for Haiti;

8. *Recommends* that the United Nations Resident Coordinator continue to be the Deputy to the Representative of the Secretary-General, that continued use be made of the resident coordinator system, including completion of a Common Country Assessment, and that preparations be made for the United Nations Development Assistance Framework in order to contribute to the establishment of an effective development programme involving all relevant organizations in the United Nations system;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to coordinate with the Government of Haiti and interested Member States on modalities to ensure support from the international community for the electoral processes under way in Haiti, and, in this regard, requests the United Nations Development Programme to continue its work relating to support of the Haitian electoral processes;

10. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to utilize the amounts allocated in the regular budget for the International Civilian Mission in Haiti, under its current mandate, for activities undertaken by the International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a trust fund for the Mission, and invites Member States to make voluntary contributions, which will cover additional costs for the implementation of its mandate;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the Mission to the General Assembly every four months;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti".

RESOLUTION 54/194

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.73, sponsored by: Indonesia and Portugal

54/194. Question of East Timor

The General Assembly,

Recalling all relevant General Assembly resolutions on the question of East Timor,

Recalling also the relevant Security Council resolutions and decisions on the question of East Timor, in particular resolutions 1236 (1999) of 7 May 1999, 1246 (1999) of 11 June 1999, 1262 (1999) of 27 August 1999, 1264 (1999) of 15 September 1999 and 1272 (1999) of 25 October 1999,

Recalling further the Agreement of 5 May 1999 between Indonesia and Portugal on the question of East Timor and the Agreements between the United Nations, Indonesia and Portugal of the same date regarding the modalities for the popular consultation of the East Timorese people through a direct ballot and security arrangements,[257]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[258]

2. *Welcomes* the successful conduct of the popular consultation of the East Timorese people on 30 August 1999, takes note of its outcome, which began a process of transition to independence under the authority of the United Nations, and welcomes the decision of the Indonesian People's Consultative Assembly on 19 October 1999 concerning East Timor in accordance with article 6 of the Agreement of 5 May 1999;[259]

3. *Decides* to conclude its consideration of the item entitled "Question of East Timor" and to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session a new item entitled "The situation in East Timor during its transition to independence".

RESOLUTION 54/195

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.7/Rev.2, sponsored by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Uganda and Viet Nam

54/195. Observer status for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision 49/426 of 9 December 1994,

Considering the importance of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources,

Considering also the need, frequently noted by the United Nations, to promote and support every effort towards the conservation of nature,

Taking into account that the main objective of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources is to encourage and assist the international community in conserving the integrity and diversity of nature,

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[257] A/53/951–S/1999/513, annexes I–III; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1999*, document S/1999/513.

[258] A/54/654.

[259] A/53/951–S/1999/513, annex I; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1999*, document S/1999/513.

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources,

1. *Decides* to invite the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources to participate in the sessions and work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Decides also* that, in future, any request by an organization for the granting of observer status in the General Assembly will be considered in plenary session after the consideration of the issue by the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures to bring to the attention of all the States Members of the General Committee and General Assembly the criteria and procedures laid down by the General Assembly whenever a request is made by an organization seeking observer status in the General Assembly;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/233

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.74 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Fiji, Gabon, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Uruguay and Venezuela

54/233. International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters from relief to development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, which contains in its annex the guiding principles for the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system, and its resolutions 52/12 B of 19 December 1997 and 54/219 of 22 December 1999, and recalling Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions 1999/1,[260] which addressed the theme "International cooperation and coordinated responses to the humanitarian emergencies, in particular in the transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development", and Council resolution 1999/63 of 30 July 1999,

Noting with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations,[261] in particular in the context of the transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development,

Recognizing the importance of the principles of neutrality, humanity and impartiality for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Emphasizing that the affected State has the primary responsibility in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory and in the facilitation of the work of the humanitarian organizations in mitigating the consequences of natural disasters,

1. *Expresses deep concern* at the increasing number and scale of natural disasters, resulting in massive losses of life and property worldwide, in particular in vulnerable societies lacking adequate capacity to mitigate effectively long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences of natural disasters;

2. *Stresses* that humanitarian assistance for natural disasters should be provided in accordance with and with due respect for the guiding principles contained in the annex to resolution 46/182 and should be determined on the basis of the human dimension and needs arising out of the particular natural disaster;

3. *Calls upon* States to adopt, where required, and to continue to implement effectively necessary legislative and other appropriate measures to mitigate the effects of natural disasters, *inter alia*, by disaster prevention, including building regulations, as well as disaster preparedness and capacity-building in disaster response, and requests the international community in this context to continue to assist developing countries, where appropriate;

4. *Stresses* the need to strengthen efforts at all levels, *inter alia*, at the domestic level, to improve natural disaster awareness, prevention, preparedness and early warning systems, as well as international cooperation, in response to emergencies from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, bearing in mind the overall negative impact of natural disasters, the resulting humanitarian needs and requests from affected countries, as appropriate;

5. *Encourages* further efforts by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Inter-Agency Standing Committee members and other members of the United Nations system in promoting preparedness for response at the international, regional and national levels and strengthening the mobilization and coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system in the field of natural disasters, *inter alia*, through the effective deployment in all regions of the world and expansion of the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination roster appropriately to include more representatives from countries of Africa, Asia and the Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean, bearing in mind that these representatives are funded by the participating countries;

6. *Also encourages* further efforts by the United Nations Development Programme to strengthen operational activities and capacity-building in natural disaster mitigation, prevention and preparedness, taking due account of the evolving comprehensive strategy to maximize international cooperation in the field of natural disasters;

7. *Invites* the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and concerned organizations, taking due account of the evolving comprehensive strategy to maximize international cooperation in the field of natural disasters, to strengthen their support to the United Nations disaster management teams which are dispatched upon request by host Governments and steered by the United Nations resident coordinator;

8. *Recalls* the consideration of natural disasters contained in the report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,[262] held in Vienna from 19 to 30 July 1999, and encourages further use

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[260] A/54/3, chap. VI, para. 5. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1).

[261] A/54/154-E/1999/94 and Add.1.

[262] A/CONF.184/6.

of space-based technologies for the prevention, mitigation and management of natural disasters, noting in this regard, the establishment of the Global Disaster Information Network;

9. *Takes note* of the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations, adopted at Tampere, Finland, on 18 June 1998, and encourages States that have not signed the Convention to consider doing so;

10. *Welcomes* innovative efforts to link various phases of international assistance from relief to rehabilitation, such as the joint Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Children's Fund and World Health Organization and Pan American Health Organization Disaster Response and Recovery Mission undertaken in all countries affected by hurricane Mitch, and stresses the need to ensure adequate assessment of and follow-up to these approaches with a view to further developing and applying them in other disasters;

11. *Encourages* Governments, in particular through their disaster response agencies, relevant organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, to continue to cooperate appropriately with the Secretary-General and the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator to maximize the effectiveness of the international response to natural disasters, based, *inter alia*, on humanitarian need, from relief to development;

12. *Recalls*, in this regard, its request to the Secretary-General to solicit the required input further to optimize and disseminate listings of organizations of civil protection and emergency response at all levels with updated inventories of available resources to help in natural disasters, as well as information, including handbooks, that guide the international cooperation in responding to natural disasters;

13. *Stresses* that particular international cooperation efforts should be undertaken to enhance and broaden further the utilization of national and local capacities and, where appropriate, regional and subregional capacities of developing countries for disaster preparedness and response, which may be made available in closer proximity to the site of a disaster, more efficiently and at lower cost;

14. *Notes* that the transition phase after natural disasters is often excessively long and characterized by a number of gaps, and that Governments, in cooperation with relief agencies, as appropriate, when planning for meeting immediate needs, should place these needs in the perspective of sustainable development whenever such an approach is possible;

15. *Stresses* the need to continue to provide adequate funds and to release funds quickly for natural disasters in order to contribute to a comprehensive recovery in the shortest time possible;

16. *Also stresses*, in this regard, that contributions for humanitarian assistance for natural disasters should be provided in a way that is not to the detriment of resources made available for international cooperation for development or complex humanitarian emergencies;

17. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, contained in resolution 54/95 of 8 December 1999, to submit to the General Assembly, early in 2000, concrete proposals in order to enhance the functioning and utilization of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund, and, in this regard, invites the Secretary-General to consider more active use of the Fund for timely and adequate natural disaster response;

18. *Invites* the Secretary-General further to consider innovative means for timely and adequate natural disaster response, *inter alia*, through mobilization of additional resources from the private sector;

19. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 2000, in the context of the follow-up to its agreed conclusions 1999/1,[266] to consider ways to enhance further the effectiveness of international cooperation and coordination in respect of the provision of timely and adequate humanitarian assistance in response to natural disasters;

20. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to consider innovative mechanisms to improve the international response to natural disasters and other emergencies, *inter alia*, through addressing any geographical and sectoral imbalances in such a response where they exist, as well as more effective use of national emergency response agencies, taking into account their comparative advantages and specialization, as well as existing arrangements, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance" with a view, *inter alia*, to contributing towards the comprehensive report on the implementation of the international strategy for disaster reduction to be submitted to the Assembly at its fifty-sixth session under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 54/234

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/54/L.75 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Cameroon, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Tunisia, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America

54/234. The causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/151 of 18 December 1991, the annex to which contains the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, its resolutions 48/214 of 23 December 1993, 49/142 of 23 December 1994 and 51/32 of 6 December 1996, on the mid-term review of the New Agenda, as well as its resolution 53/90 of 7 December 1998 on the implementation of the New Agenda,

Recalling also its resolution 53/92 of 7 December 1998 on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace in Africa,

Mindful of agreed conclusions 1999/2 adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1999,[267] on coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the theme "Development of Africa: implementation and coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system of initiatives on African development", and of Council decision 1999/270,

Taking note of the deliberations of the Security Council at its meeting on the situation in Africa, held on 29 and

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[267] A/54/3, chapter V, para. 6. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1).

30 September 1999,[264] on the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa[265] and of the work of the Security Council on the follow-up to the report of the Secretary-General,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on the development of Africa: implementation of the recommendations in the report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council and the General Assembly, specifically the implementation and coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system of initiatives on Africa,[266]

1. *Welcomes* agreed conclusions 1999/2 adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1999,[262] on coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the theme "Development of Africa: implementation and coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system of initiatives on African development", and Council decision 1999/270;

2. *Requests* all Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in their respective areas and sectors to work towards the implementation of agreed conclusions 1999/2;

3. *Welcomes* the decision of the Economic and Social Council to hold a high-level segment on Africa in 2001;

4. *Stresses* the paramount importance for the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, to be held in 2002, of an independent evaluation of the New Agenda that should include a thorough review of existing initiatives on Africa;

5. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-sixth session the modalities for undertaking the final review and appraisal of the New Agenda, taking into account the mid-term review of the New Agenda, agreed conclusions 1999/2 and decision 1999/270;

6. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to establish the open-ended ad hoc working group to monitor the implementation of the recommendations made by the Secretary-General in his report to the General Assembly and the Security Council on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[267] to prepare for discussions at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly;

7. *Requests* that, in addition to monitoring the recommendations referred to in paragraph 6 above, the ad hoc working group monitor the implementation of agreed conclusions 1999/2 and of decision 1999/270, as well as poverty eradication, debt relief, the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and support to countries in post-conflict situations;

8. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session to establish the ad hoc working group, to serve as its ex officio chairman, to designate, in close consultation with Member States, two vice-chairpersons and to convene an organizational meeting of the ad hoc working group not later than March 2000 to decide on modalities and develop arrangements for the effective functioning of the ad hoc working group;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the ad hoc working group with all necessary assistance to ensure the accomplishment of its mandate;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[264] See S/PV.4049, S/PV.4049 (Resumption 1), S/PV.4049 (Resumption 2) and S/PV.4049 (Resumption 3). For the final text, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year*, 4049th meeting.

[265] S/1999/1008; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1999*.

[266] A/54/133–E/1999/79.

[267] A/52/871–S/1998/318; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1998*, document S/1998/318.

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RESOLUTION 54/43

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/551)

54/43. Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/72 of 4 December 1998 on objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures,

Also recalling its resolution 35/142 B of 12 December 1980, which introduced the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures, and its resolutions 48/62 of 16 December 1993, 49/66 of 15 December 1994, 51/38 of 10 December 1996 and 52/32 of 9 December 1997, calling upon all Member States to participate in it, and its resolution 47/54 B of 9 December 1992, endorsing the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters and inviting Member States to provide the Secretary-General with relevant information regarding their implementation,

Noting that since then national reports on military expenditures and on the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters have been submitted by a number of Member States belonging to different geographic regions,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General[1] on ways and means to implement the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters, including, in particular, how to strengthen and broaden participation in the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures,

Expressing its appreciation to the Secretary-General for providing Member States with the reports on military expenditures in standardized form reported by States and on the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters,

Welcoming the decision of many Member States to exchange and to publish information annually on their military budgets and to implement the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters, as appropriate,

Noting the efforts of several regional organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures, including standardized annual exchanges of relevant information among their member States,

Reaffirming its firm conviction that a better flow of objective information on military matters can help to relieve international tension and contribute to the building of confidence among States and to the conclusion of concrete disarmament agreements,

Convinced that the improvement of international relations forms a sound basis for promoting further openness and transparency in all military matters,

Recalling that the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters recommended certain areas for further consideration, such as the improvement of the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures,

1. *Recommends* the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters to all Member States for implementation, fully taking into account specific political, military and other conditions prevailing in a region, on the basis of initiatives and with the agreement of the States of the region concerned;

2. *Welcomes* the continuation by the Secretary-General of consultations with relevant international bodies with a view to ascertaining the requirements for adjusting the present instrument to encourage wider participation;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for providing Member States with a report[1] on the outcome of those consultations, as well as for his intention to organize international and regional symposia and training seminars in the coming biennium, and notes his intention to encourage, *inter alia*, the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament in Africa, in Asia and the Pacific, and in Latin America and the Caribbean to assist Member States in their regions in enhancing their knowledge of the standardized reporting system;

4. *Calls upon* all Member States to report annually, by 30 April, to the Secretary-General their military expenditures for the latest fiscal year for which data are available, using, preferably and to the extent possible, the reporting instrument as recommended in its resolution 35/142 B or, as appropriate, any other format developed in conjunction with similar reporting on military expenditures to other international or regional organizations;

5. *Encourages* relevant international bodies and regional organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures and to enhance complementarity among reporting systems, taking into account the particular characteristics of each region, and to consider the possibility of an exchange of information with the United Nations;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To continue the practice of sending an annual note verbale to Member States requesting the submission of data to the reporting system, together with the reporting format and related instructions, and to publish in a timely fashion in appropriate United Nations media the due date for transmitting data on military expenditures;

(*b*) To promote international and regional symposia and training seminars to explain the purpose of the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures and to give relevant technical instructions;

(*c*) To circulate annually the reports on military expenditures as received from Member States;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue consultations with relevant international bodies, within existing resources, with a view to ascertaining the requirements for adjusting the present instrument to encourage

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[1] A/54/298.

wider participation, with emphasis on examining possibilities for enhancing complementarity among international and regional reporting systems, and to exchange related information with those bodies;

8. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to make recommendations, based on the outcome of those consultations and taking into account the views of Member States, on necessary changes to the content and structure of the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures in order to strengthen and broaden participation, and to submit a report on the subject to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

9. *Calls upon* all Member States, in time for the deliberation by the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, to provide the Secretary-General with their views on the analysis and the recommendations contained in his report[1] and with further suggestions to strengthen and broaden participation in the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures, including necessary changes to its content and structure;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures".

RESOLUTION 54/44

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/552)

54/44. Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons,

Recalling also its resolution 51/37 of 10 December 1996 relating to the prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons,

Taking note of paragraph 77 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[2]

Determined to prevent the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction that have characteristics comparable in destructive effect to those of weapons of mass destruction identified in the definition of weapons of mass destruction adopted by the United Nations in 1948,[3]

Noting the desirability of keeping the matter under review, as appropriate,

1. *Reaffirms* that effective measures should be taken to prevent the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament, without prejudice to further overview of its agenda, to keep the matter under review, as appropriate, with a view to making, when necessary, recommendations on undertaking specific negotiations on identified types of such weapons;

3. *Calls upon* all States, immediately following any recommendations of the Conference on Disarmament, to give favourable consideration to those recommendations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Conference on Disarmament all documents relating to the consideration of this item by the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session;

5. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report the results of any consideration of the matter in its annual reports to the General Assembly;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament".

RESOLUTION 54/45

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/553)

54/45. Question of Antarctica

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/56 of 10 December 1996, in which it requested the Secretary-General to submit a report consisting of the information provided by the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties on their consultative meetings and on their activities in Antarctica, and on developments in relation to Antarctica,

Taking into account the debates on the question of Antarctica held since its thirty-eighth session,

Conscious of the particular significance of Antarctica to the international community, including for international peace and security, the global and regional environment, its effects on global and regional climate conditions, and scientific research,

Reaffirming that the management and use of Antarctica should be conducted in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and of promoting international cooperation for the benefit of mankind as a whole,

Recognizing that the Antarctic Treaty,[4] which provides, *inter alia*, for the demilitarization of the continent, the prohibition of nuclear explosions and the disposal of nuclear wastes, the freedom of scientific research and the free exchange of scientific information, is in furtherance of the purposes and principles of the Charter,

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[2] Resolution S-10/2.

[3] The definition was adopted by the Commission for Conventional Armaments (see S/C.3/32/Rev.1).

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

Welcoming the entry into force of the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty[5] on 14 January 1998, under which Antarctica has been designated as a natural reserve, devoted to peace and science, and the provisions contained in the Protocol regarding the protection of the Antarctic environment and dependent and associated ecosystems, including the need for environmental impact assessment in the planning and conduct of all relevant activities in Antarctica,

Welcoming also the continuing cooperation among countries undertaking scientific research activities in Antarctica, which may help to minimize human impact on the Antarctic environment,

Welcoming further the increasing awareness of an interest in Antarctica shown by the international community, and convinced of the advantages to the whole of mankind of a better knowledge of Antarctica,

Reaffirming its conviction that, in the interest of all mankind, Antarctica should continue for ever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and that it should not become the scene or object of international discord,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the question of Antarctica[6] and the role accorded by the Secretary-General to the United Nations Environment Programme in preparing his report and also of the Twenty-first, Twenty-second and Twenty-third Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings, which were held at Christchurch, New Zealand, from 19 to 30 May 1997, at Tromso, Norway, from 25 May to 5 June 1998, and at Lima, from 24 May to 4 June 1999, respectively;

2. *Recalls* the statement under chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[7] adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, that States carrying out research activities in Antarctica should, as provided for in article III of the Antarctic Treaty, continue:

(*a*) To ensure that data and information resulting from such research are freely available to the international community;

(*b*) To enhance the access of the international scientific community and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system to such data and information, including the encouragement of periodic seminars and symposia;

3. *Welcomes* the invitations to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to attend Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings in order to assist such meetings in their substantive work, and urges the parties to continue to do so for future consultative meetings;

4. *Welcomes also* the practice whereby the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties regularly provide the Secretary-General with information on their consultative meetings and on their activities in Antarctica, and encourages the parties to continue to provide the Secretary-General and interested States with information on developments in relation to Antarctica, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report which shall consist of that information to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Question of Antarctica".

RESOLUTION 54/46

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/555)

54/46. Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification

The General Assembly,

Noting the critical importance of, and the vital contribution that has been made by, effective verification measures in arms limitation and disarmament agreements and other similar obligations,

Reaffirming its support for the sixteen principles of verification drawn up by the Disarmament Commission,[8]

Recalling its resolutions 40/152 O of 16 December 1985, 41/86 Q of 4 December 1986, 42/42 F of 30 November 1987, 43/81 B of 7 December 1988, 45/65 of 4 December 1990, 47/45 of 9 December 1992, 48/68 of 16 December 1993, 50/61 of 12 December 1995 and 52/31 of 9 December 1997,

Recalling also the reports of the Secretary-General of 11 July 1986, 28 August 1990, 16 September 1992, 26 July 1993, 22 September 1995, 6 August 1997 and 9 July 1999, and the addenda thereto,[9]

1. *Reaffirms* the critical importance of, and the vital contribution that has been made by, effective verification measures in arms limitation and disarmament agreements and other similar obligations;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on further views received from Member States pursuant to resolutions 50/61 and 52/31;

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[5] *International Legal Materials*, vol. XXX, No. 6, p. 1461.

[6] A/54/339 and Corr.1.

[7] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II, chap. 17, para. 17.105.

[8] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No.3* (A/S-15/3), para. 60 (para. 6, sect. I, of the quoted text).

[9] A/41/422 and Add.1 and 2, A/45/372 and Corr.1, A/47/405 and Add.1, A/48/227 and Add.1 and 2, A/50/377 and Corr.1, A/52/269 and A/54/166.

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification".

RESOLUTION 54/47

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 120 to 3, with 41 abstentions,[10] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/556)

54/47. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, contained in its resolution 2832 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, and recalling also its resolution 52/44 of 9 December 1997 and other relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the report of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean held in July 1979,[11]

Recalling further paragraph 148 of the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[12] in which it was noted, *inter alia*, that the Chairperson of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean would continue his informal consultations on the future work of the Committee,

Emphasizing the need to foster consensual approaches, in particular given the prevailing international climate, which is conducive to the pursuit of such endeavours,

Noting the initiatives taken by countries of the region to promote cooperation, in particular economic cooperation, in the Indian Ocean area and the possible contribution of such initiatives to overall objectives of a zone of peace,

Convinced that the participation of all the permanent members of the Security Council and the major maritime users of the Indian Ocean in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee is important and would assist the progress of a mutually beneficial dialogue to develop conditions of peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region,

Considering that greater efforts and more time are required to develop a focused discussion on practical measures to ensure conditions of peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region,

Having considered the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean,[13]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean;[13]

2. *Reiterates its conviction* that the participation of all the permanent members of the Security Council and the major maritime users of the Indian Ocean in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee is important and would greatly facilitate the development of a mutually beneficial dialogue to advance peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region;

3. *Requests* the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee to continue his informal consultations with the members of the Committee and to report through the Committee to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render, within existing resources, all necessary assistance to the Ad Hoc Committee, including the provision of summary records;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace".

RESOLUTION 54/48

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/557)

54/48. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/46 of 9 December 1997 and all its other relevant resolutions, as well as those of the Organization of African Unity,

Recalling also the successful conclusion of the signing ceremony of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)[14] that was held in Cairo on 11 April 1996,

Recalling further the Cairo Declaration adopted on that occasion,[15] which emphasized that nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in regions of tension, such as the Middle East, enhance global and regional peace and security,

Noting the statement made by the President of the Security Council on behalf of the members of the Council on 12 April 1996,[16] in which it was stated that the signature of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty constituted an important contribution by the African countries to the maintenance of international peace and security,

Considering that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in the Middle East, would enhance the security of Africa and the viability of the African nuclear-weapon-free zone,

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[10] For details, see annex II.

[11] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 45* and corrigendum (A/34/45 and Corr.1).

[12] See A/53/667–S/1998/1071, annex I; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1998*, document S/1998/1071.

[13] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 29* (A/54/29).

[14] See A/50/426.

[15] A/51/113–S/1996/276, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-first Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1996*, document S/1996/276.

[16] S/PRST/1996/17; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1996*.

1. *Calls upon* African States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)[14] as soon as possible so that it may enter into force without delay;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the nuclear-weapon States that have signed the Protocols that concern them, and calls upon those that have not yet ratified the Protocols concerning them to do so as soon as possible;

3. *Calls upon* the States contemplated in Protocol III to the Treaty that have not yet done so to take all necessary measures to ensure the speedy application of the Treaty to territories for which they are, *de jure* or de facto, internationally responsible and which lie within the limits of the geographical zone established in the Treaty;

4. *Calls upon* the African States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[17] that have not yet done so to conclude comprehensive safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency pursuant to the Treaty, thereby satisfying the requirements of article 9 (*b*) of and annex II to the Treaty of Pelindaba when it enters into force, and to conclude additional protocols to their safeguards agreements on the basis of the Model Protocol approved by the Board of Governors of the Agency on 15 May 1997;[18]

5. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency for the diligence with which they have rendered effective assistance to the signatories to the Treaty;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty".

RESOLUTION 54/49

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/558)

54/49. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/70 of 4 December 1998,

Recalling also its resolutions on the role of science and technology in the context of international security, in which, *inter alia*, it recognized that scientific and technological developments could have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needed to be maintained and encouraged,

Noting that considerable progress has been achieved in developing and applying the latest information technologies and means of telecommunication,

Affirming that it sees in this process the broadest positive opportunities for the further development of civilization, the expansion of opportunities for cooperation for the common good of all States, the enhancement of the creative potential of mankind and additional improvements in the circulation of information in the global community,

Recalling in this connection the approaches and principles outlined at the Information Society and Development Conference, held at Midrand, South Africa, from 13 to 15 May 1996,

Taking note of the results of the Ministerial Conference on Terrorism, held in Paris on 30 July 1996, and of the recommendations it made,[19]

Noting that the dissemination and use of information technologies and means affect the interests of the entire international community and that optimum effectiveness is enhanced by broad international cooperation,

Expressing concern that these technologies and means can potentially be used for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the security of States in both civilian and military fields,

Considering that it is necessary to prevent the misuse or exploitation of information resources or technologies for criminal or terrorist purposes,

Noting the contribution of those Member States that have submitted their assessments on issues of information security to the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraphs 1 to 3 of resolution 53/70,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General containing those assessments,[20]

Welcoming the timely initiative taken by the Secretariat and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research in convening an international meeting of experts at Geneva in August 1999 on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security,

Considering that the assessments of Member States contained in the report of the Secretary-General and the international meeting of experts have contributed to a better understanding of the substance of issues of international information security, related notions and possible measures to limit the threats emerging in this field,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to promote further at multilateral levels the consideration of existing and potential threats in the field of information security;

2. *Invites* all Member States to continue to inform the Secretary-General of their views and assessments on the following questions:

(*a*) General appreciation of the issues of information security;

(*b*) Definition of basic notions related to information security, including unauthorized interference with or misuse of information and telecommunications systems and information resources;

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[17] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[18] International Atomic Energy Agency, INFCIRC/540 (Corrected).

[19] See A/51/261, annex.

[20] A/54/213.

(*c*) Advisability of developing international principles that would enhance the security of global information and telecommunications systems and help to combat information terrorism and criminality;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security".

RESOLUTION 54/50

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 98 to 46, with 19 abstentions,[21] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/559)

54/50. Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that scientific and technological developments can have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needs to be maintained and encouraged,

Concerned that military applications of scientific and technological developments can contribute significantly to the improvement and upgrading of advanced weapon systems and, in particular, weapons of mass destruction,

Aware of the need to follow closely the scientific and technological developments that may have a negative impact on international security and disarmament and to channel scientific and technological developments for beneficial purposes,

Cognizant that the international transfers of dual-use as well as high-technology products, services and know-how for peaceful purposes are important for the economic and social development of States,

Also cognizant of the need to regulate such transfers of dual-use goods and technologies and high technology with military applications through multilaterally negotiated, universally applicable, non-discriminatory guidelines,

Expressing concern over the growing proliferation of ad hoc and exclusive export control regimes and arrangements for dual-use goods and technologies, which tend to impede the economic and social development of developing countries,

Recalling that in the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[22] it was noted with concern that undue restrictions on exports to developing countries of material, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes persist,

Emphasizing that internationally negotiated guidelines for the transfer of high technology with military applications should take into account the legitimate defence requirements of all States and the requirements for the maintenance of international peace and security, while ensuring that access to high-technology products and services and know-how for peaceful purposes is not denied,

1. *Affirms* that scientific and technological progress should be used for the benefit of all mankind to promote the sustainable economic and social development of all States and to safeguard international security and that international cooperation in the use of science and technology through the transfer and exchange of technological know-how for peaceful purposes should be promoted;

2. *Invites* Member States to undertake additional efforts to apply science and technology for disarmament-related purposes and to make disarmament-related technologies available to interested States;

3. *Urges* Member States to undertake multilateral negotiations with the participation of all interested States in order to establish universally acceptable, non-discriminatory guidelines for international transfers of dual-use goods and technologies and high technology with military applications;

4. *Takes note* of the report, including its addendum, submitted by the Secretary-General in pursuance of paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 53/73 of 4 December 1998;[23]

5. *Encourages* United Nations bodies to contribute, within existing mandates, to promoting the application of science and technology for peaceful purposes;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament".

RESOLUTION 54/51

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/560)

54/51. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3263 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3474 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/71 of 10 December 1976, 32/82 of 12 December 1977, 33/64 of 14 December 1978, 34/77 of 11 December 1979, 35/147 of 12 December 1980, 36/87 A and B of 9 December 1981, 37/75 of 9 December 1982, 38/64 of 15 December 1983, 39/54 of 12 December 1984, 40/82 of 12 December 1985, 41/48 of

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[21] For details, see annex II.

[22] A/53/667–S/1998/1071, annex I; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1998*, document S/1998/1071.

[23] A/54/167 and Add.1.

3 December 1986, 42/28 of 30 November 1987, 43/65 of 7 December 1988, 44/108 of 15 December 1989, 45/52 of 4 December 1990, 46/30 of 6 December 1991, 47/48 of 9 December 1992, 48/71 of 16 December 1993, 49/71 of 15 December 1994, 50/66 of 12 December 1995, 51/41 of 10 December 1996, 52/34 of 9 December 1997 and 53/74 of 4 December 1998 on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Recalling also the recommendations for the establishment of such a zone in the Middle East consistent with paragraphs 60 to 63, and in particular paragraph 63 (*d*), of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[24]

Emphasizing the basic provisions of the above-mentioned resolutions, which call upon all parties directly concerned to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East and, pending and during the establishment of such a zone, to declare solemnly that they will refrain, on a reciprocal basis, from producing, acquiring or in any other way possessing nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices and from permitting the stationing of nuclear weapons on their territory by any third party, to agree to place their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards and to declare their support for the establishment of the zone and to deposit such declarations with the Security Council for consideration, as appropriate,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all States to acquire and develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes,

Emphasizing the need for appropriate measures on the question of the prohibition of military attacks on nuclear facilities,

Bearing in mind the consensus reached by the General Assembly since its thirty-fifth session that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East would greatly enhance international peace and security,

Desirous of building on that consensus so that substantial progress can be made towards establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East,

Welcoming all initiatives leading to general and complete disarmament, including in the region of the Middle East, and in particular on the establishment therein of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons,

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Recognizing the importance of credible regional security, including the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Emphasizing the essential role of the United Nations in the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 53/74,[25]

1. *Urges* all parties directly concerned to consider seriously taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and, as a means of promoting this objective, invites the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[26]

2. *Calls upon* all countries of the region that have not done so, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

3. *Takes note* of resolution GC(43)/RES/23, adopted on 1 October 1999 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its forty-third regular session, concerning the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East;

4. *Notes* the importance of the ongoing bilateral Middle East peace negotiations and the activities of the multilateral Working Group on Arms Control and Regional Security in promoting mutual confidence and security in the Middle East, including the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone;

5. *Invites* all countries of the region, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East, to declare their support for establishing such a zone, consistent with paragraph 63 (*d*) of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[24] and to deposit those declarations with the Security Council;

6. *Also invites* those countries, pending the establishment of the zone, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or permit the stationing on their territories, or territories under their control, of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices;

7. *Invites* the nuclear-weapon States and all other States to render their assistance in the establishment of the zone and at the same time to refrain from any action that runs counter to both the letter and the spirit of the present resolution;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[25]

9. *Invites* all parties to consider the appropriate means that may contribute towards the goal of general and complete disarmament and the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the region of the Middle East;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to pursue consultations with the States of the region and other concerned States, in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution

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[24] Resolution S-10/2.

[25] A/54/190 and Add.1.

[26] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

46/30 and taking into account the evolving situation in the region, and to seek from those States their views on the measures outlined in chapters III and IV of the study annexed to his report[27] or other relevant measures, in order to move towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East".

RESOLUTION 54/52

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 111 to none, with 53 abstentions,[28] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/561)

54/52. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the need to allay the legitimate concern of the States of the world with regard to ensuring lasting security for their peoples,

Convinced that nuclear weapons pose the greatest threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

Welcoming the progress achieved in recent years in both nuclear and conventional disarmament,

Noting that, despite recent progress in the field of nuclear disarmament, further efforts are necessary towards the achievement of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Convinced that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

Determined strictly to abide by the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or threat of force,

Recognizing that the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of non-nuclear-weapon States need to be safeguarded against the use or threat of use of force, including the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures and arrangements to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter,

Recognizing that effective measures and arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons can contribute positively to the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons,

Bearing in mind paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[29] the first special session devoted to disarmament, in which it urged the nuclear-weapon States to pursue efforts to conclude, as appropriate, effective arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and desirous of promoting the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Document,

Recalling the relevant parts of the special report of the Committee on Disarmament[30] submitted to the General Assembly at its twelfth special session,[31] the second special session devoted to disarmament, and of the special report of the Conference on Disarmament submitted to the Assembly at its fifteenth special session,[32] the third special session devoted to disarmament, as well as the report of the Conference on its 1992 session,[33]

Recalling also paragraph 12 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, which states, *inter alia*, that all efforts should be exerted by the Committee on Disarmament urgently to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Noting the in-depth negotiations undertaken in the Conference on Disarmament and its Ad Hoc Committee on Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons,[34] with a view to reaching agreement on this question,

Taking note of the proposals submitted under the item in the Conference on Disarmament, including the drafts of an international convention,

Taking note also of the relevant decision of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[35] as well as the relevant recommendations of the Organization of the Islamic Conference,

Taking note further of the unilateral declarations made by all the nuclear-weapon States on their policies of non-use or on-threat of use of nuclear weapons against the non-nuclear-eapon States,

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[27] A/45/435.

[28] For details, see annex II.

[29] Resolution S-10/2.

[30] The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

[31] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-12/2), sect. III.C.

[32] Ibid., *Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-15/2), sect. III.F.

[33] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), sect. III.F.

[34] Ibid., *Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/48/27), para. 39.

[35] See A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1998*, document S/1998/1071.

Noting the support expressed in the Conference on isarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration f an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon tates against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, as ell as the difficulties pointed out in evolving a common pproach acceptable to all,

Taking note of Security Council resolution 984 (1995) of 11 April 1995 and the views expressed on it,

Recalling its relevant resolutions adopted in previous years, in particular resolutions 45/54 of 4 December 1990, 46/32 of 6 December 1991, 47/50 of 9 December 1992, 48/73 of 16 December 1993, 49/73 of 15 December 1994, 50/68 of 12 December 1995, 51/43 of 10 December 1996, 52/36 of 9 December 1997 and 53/75 of 4 December 1998,

1. *Reaffirms* the urgent need to reach an early agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that in the Conference on Disarmament there is no objection, in principle, to the idea of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, although the difficulties with regard to evolving a common approach acceptable to all have also been pointed out;

3. *Appeals* to all States, especially the nuclear-weapon States, to work actively towards an early agreement on a common approach and, in particular, on a common formula that could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character;

4. *Recommends* that further intensive efforts be devoted to the search for such a common approach or common formula and that the various alternative approaches, including, in particular, those considered in the Conference on Disarmament, be further explored in order to overcome the difficulties;

5. *Recommends also* that the Conference on Disarmament actively continue intensive negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement and concluding effective international arrangements to assure the non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, taking into account the widespread support for the conclusion of an international convention and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons".

RESOLUTION 54/53

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 162 to none, with 2 abstentions,[36] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/562)

54/53. Prevention of an arms race in outer space

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the common interest of all mankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Reaffirming the will of all States that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be for peaceful purposes and shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development,

Reaffirming also the provisions of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[37]

Recalling the obligation of all States to observe the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the use or threat of use of force in their international relations, including in their space activities,

Reaffirming paragraph 80 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[38] in which it is stated that in order to prevent an arms race in outer space further measures should be taken and appropriate international negotiations held in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty,

Recalling its previous resolutions on this issue, and taking note of the proposals submitted to the General Assembly at its tenth special session and at its regular sessions, and of the recommendations made to the competent organs of the United Nations and to the Conference on Disarmament,

Recognizing that prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger for international peace and security,

Emphasizing the paramount importance of strict compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament agreements relevant to outer space, including bilateral agreements, and with the existing legal regime concerning the use of outer space,

Considering that wide participation in the legal regime applicable to outer space could contribute to enhancing its effectiveness,

Noting that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, taking into account its previous efforts since its establishment in 1985 and seeking to enhance its functioning in qualitative terms, continued the examination and identification of various issues, existing agreements and existing proposals, as well as future initiatives relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space,[39] and that this contributed to a better understanding of a number of problems and to a clearer perception of the various positions,

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[36] For details, see annex II.

[37] Resolution 2222 (XXI), annex.

[38] Resolution S-10/2.

Noting also that there were no objections in principle in the Conference on Disarmament to the re-establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee, subject to re-examination of the mandate contained in the decision of the Conference on Disarmament of 13 February 1992,[40]

Emphasizing the mutually complementary nature of bilateral and multilateral efforts in the field of preventing an arms race in outer space, and hoping that concrete results will emerge from those efforts as soon as possible,

Convinced that further measures should be examined in the search for effective and verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, including the weaponization of outer space,

Stressing that the growing use of outer space increases the need for greater transparency and better information on the part of the international community,

Recalling in this context its previous resolutions, in particular resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990, 47/51 of 9 December 1992 and 48/74 A of 16 December 1993, in which, *inter alia*, it reaffirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

Conscious of the benefits of confidence- and security-building measures in the military field,

Recognizing that negotiations for the conclusion of an international agreement or agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space remain a priority task of the Ad Hoc Committee and that the concrete proposals on confidence-building measures could form an integral part of such agreements,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance and urgency of preventing an arms race in outer space, and the readiness of all States to contribute to that common objective, in conformity with the provisions of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies;[37]

2. *Reaffirms its recognition*, as stated in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, that the legal regime applicable to outer space by itself does not guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space, that this legal regime plays a significant role in the prevention of an arms race in that environment, that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime and enhance its effectiveness, and that it is important to comply strictly with existing agreements, both bilateral and multilateral;

3. *Emphasizes* the necessity of further measures with appropriate and effective provisions for verification to prevent an arms race in outer space;

4. *Calls upon* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and of the prevention of an arms race in outer space and to refrain from actions contrary to that objective and to the relevant existing treaties in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation;

5. *Reiterates* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

6. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to complete the examination and updating of the mandate contained in its decision of 13 February 1992[40] and to establish an ad hoc committee as early as possible during the 2000 session of the Conference on Disarmament;

7. *Recognizes*, in this respect, the growing convergence of views on the elaboration of measures designed to strengthen transparency, confidence and security in the peaceful uses of outer space;

8. *Urges* States conducting activities in outer space, as well as States interested in conducting such activities, to keep the Conference on Disarmament informed of the progress of bilateral and multilateral negotiations on the matter, if any, so as to facilitate its work;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space".

RESOLUTIONS 54/54 A to V

A

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 80 to 4, with 68 abstentions,[41] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

B

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 139 to 1, with 20 abstentions,[41] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

C

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

D

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 153 to none, with 12 abstentions,[41] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

E

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

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[39] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/49/27), sect. III.D (para. 5 of the quoted text).

[40] CD/1125.

[41] For details, see annex II.

F

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 94 to none, with 65 abstentions,[41] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

G

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 111 to 13, with 39 abstentions,[41] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

H

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

I

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 97 to 48, with 15 abstentions,[41] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

J

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

K

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 104 to 43, with 14 abstentions,[41] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

L

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 157 to 3, with 4 abstentions,[41] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

M

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 159 to 1, with 1 abstention,[41] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

N

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

O

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 150 to none, with 12 abstentions,[41] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

P

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 104 to 41, with 17 abstentions,[41] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

Q

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 114 to 28, with 22 abstentions,[41] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

R

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

S

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 159 to none, with 4 abstentions,[41] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

T

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

U

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

V

Adopted at the 80th plenary meeting, on 15 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 119 to none, with 2 abstentions,[41] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/563)

54/54. General and complete disarmament

A

Preservation of and compliance with the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/60 of 12 December 1995 and 52/30 of 9 December 1997 on compliance with arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements,

Recognizing the historical role of the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems of 26 May 1972 between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics[42] as a cornerstone for maintaining global peace and security and strategic stability, and reaffirming its continued validity and relevance, especially in the current international situation,

Stressing the paramount importance of full and strict compliance with the Treaty by the parties,

Recalling that the provisions of the Treaty are intended as a contribution to the creation of more favourable conditions for further negotiations on limiting strategic arms,

Mindful of the obligations of the parties to the Treaty under article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[43]

Concerned that the implementation of any measures undermining the purposes and provisions of the Treaty affects not only the security interests of the parties, but also those of the whole international community,

Recalling the widespread concern about the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery,

1. *Calls* for continued efforts to strengthen the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems and to preserve its integrity and validity so that it remains a

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[42] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 944, No. 13446.

[43] Ibid., vol. 729, No. 10485.

cornerstone in maintaining global strategic stability and world peace and in promoting further strategic nuclear arms reductions;

2. *Calls also* for renewed efforts by each of the States parties to preserve and strengthen the Treaty through full and strict compliance;

3. *Calls upon* the parties to the Treaty, in accordance with their obligations under the Treaty, to limit the deployment of anti-ballistic missile systems and refrain from the deployment of anti-ballistic missile systems for the defence of the territory of their country and not to provide a base for such a defence, and not to transfer to other States or deploy outside their national territory anti-ballistic missile systems or their components limited by the Treaty;

4. *Considers* that the implementation of any measure undermining the purposes and the provisions of the Treaty also undermines global strategic stability and world peace and the promotion of further strategic nuclear arms reductions;

5. *Urges* all Member States to support efforts aimed at stemming the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

6. *Supports* further efforts by the international community, in the light of emerging developments, towards safeguarding the inviolability and integrity of the Treaty, which is in the strongest interest of the international community;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session an item entitled "Preservation of and compliance with the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems".

B

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/77 N of 4 December 1998,

Reaffirming its determination to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, which kill or maim hundreds of people every week, mostly innocent and defenceless civilians and especially children, obstruct economic development and reconstruction, inhibit the repatriation of refugees and internally displaced persons, and have other severe consequences for years after emplacement,

Believing it necessary to do the utmost to contribute in an efficient and coordinated manner to facing the challenge of removing anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world, and to assure their destruction,

Wishing to do the utmost in ensuring assistance for the care and rehabilitation, including the social and economic reintegration, of mine victims,

Welcoming the entry into force on 1 March 1999 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[44]

Recalling the First Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention, held at Maputo from 3 to 7 May 1999, and the reaffirmation made in the Maputo Declaration[45] of a commitment to the total eradication of anti-personnel mines,

Noting with satisfaction the addition of new States signatories to the Convention, the rapid ratification by many signatories, and the accession to the Convention by other States, bringing the total number of States that have signed to one hundred and thirty-three, and that eighty-nine States have ratified or acceded to the Convention in the two years since it was opened for signature,

Emphasizing the desirability of attracting the adherence of all States to the Convention, and determined to work strenuously towards the promotion of its universalization,

Noting with regret that anti-personnel mines continue to be used in conflicts around the world, causing human suffering and impeding post-conflict development,

1. *Invites* all States that have not signed the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[44] to accede it without delay;

2. *Urges* all States that have signed but not ratified the Convention to ratify it without delay;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the full and effective implementation of, and compliance with, the Convention;

4. *Urges* all States parties to provide the Secretary-General with complete and timely information, as required in article 7 of the Convention in order to promote transparency and compliance with the Convention;

5. *Invites* all States that have not ratified the Convention or acceded to it to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to make global mine action efforts more effective;

6. *Renews its call upon* all States and other relevant parties to work together to promote, support and advance the care, rehabilitation and social and economic reintegration of mine victims, mine awareness programmes, and the removal of anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world and the assurance of their destruction;

7. *Invites and encourages* all interested States, the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to participate in the programme of inter-sessional work established at the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 11, paragraph 2, of the Convention, to undertake the

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[44] See CD/1478.

[45] APLC/MSP.1/1999/1, part II.

preparations necessary to convene the Second Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention at Geneva, from 11 to 15 September 2000, and, on behalf of States parties and according to article 11, paragraph 4, of the Convention, to invite States not parties to the Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to attend the Meeting as observers;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction".

C

PROHIBITION OF THE DUMPING OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind resolutions CM/Res.1153(XLVIII) of 1988[46] and CM/Res.1225(L) of 1989,[47] adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, concerning the dumping of nuclear and industrial wastes in Africa,

Welcoming resolution GC(XXXIV)/RES/530 establishing a Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste, adopted on 21 September 1990 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its thirty-fourth regular session,[48]

Also welcoming resolution GC(XXXVIII)/RES/6, adopted on 23 September 1994 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its thirty-eighth regular session,[49] inviting the Board of Governors and the Director General of the Agency to commence preparations for a convention on the safety of radioactive waste management, and noting the progress that has been made in that regard,

Taking note of the commitment by the participants in the Summit on Nuclear Safety and Security, held in Moscow on 19 and 20 April 1996, to ban the dumping at sea of radioactive wastes,[50]

Considering its resolution 2602 C (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, in which it requested the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament,[51] *inter alia*, to consider effective methods of control against the use of radiological methods of warfare,

Recalling resolution CM/Res.1356(LIV) of 1991, adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity,[52] on the Bamako Convention on the Ban on the Import of Hazardous Wastes into Africa and on the Control of Their Transboundary Movements within Africa,

Aware of the potential hazards underlying any use of radioactive wastes that would constitute radiological warfare and its implications for regional and international security, in particular for the security of developing countries,

Recalling all its resolutions on the matter since its forty-third session in 1988, including its resolution 51/45 J of 10 December 1996,

Desirous of promoting the implementation of paragraph 76 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[53] the first special session devoted to disarmament,

1. *Takes note* of the part of the report of the Conference on Disarmament relating to a future convention on the prohibition of radiological weapons;[54]

2. *Expresses grave concern* regarding any use of nuclear wastes that would constitute radiological warfare and have grave implications for the national security of all States;

3. *Calls upon* all States to take appropriate measures with a view to preventing any dumping of nuclear or radioactive wastes that would infringe upon the sovereignty of States;

4. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to take into account, in the negotiations for a convention on the prohibition of radiological weapons, radioactive wastes as part of the scope of such a convention;

5. *Also requests* the Conference on Disarmament to intensify efforts towards an early conclusion of such a convention and to include in its report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session the progress recorded in the negotiations on this subject;

6. *Takes note* of resolution CM/Res.1356(LIV) of 1991, adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, on the Bamako Convention on the Ban on the Import of Hazardous Wastes into Africa and on the Control of Their Transboundary Movements within Africa;

7. *Expresses the hope* that the effective implementation of the International Atomic Energy Agency Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste will enhance the protection of all States from the dumping of radioactive wastes on their territories;

8. *Welcomes* the adoption at Vienna on 5 September 1997 of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste

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[46] See A/43/398, annex I.

[47] See A/44/603, annex I.

[48] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Thirty-fourth Regular Session, 17–21 September 1990* (GC(XXXIV)/RESOLUTIONS (1990)).

[49] Ibid., *Thirty-eighth Regular Session, 19–23 September 1994* (GC(XXXVIII)/RES/DEC (1994)).

[50] A/51/131, annex I, para. 20.

[51] The Conference of the Committee on Disarmament became the Committee on Disarmament as from the tenth special session of the General Assembly. The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

[52] See A/46/390, annex I.

[53] Resolution S-10/2.

[54] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/54/27), chap. III, sect. E.

Management,[55] as recommended by the participants in the Summit on Nuclear Safety and Security held in Moscow on 19 and 20 April 1996, and the signing of the Joint Convention by a number of States beginning on 29 September 1997, and appeals to all States to sign and subsequently ratify, accept or approve the Convention, so that it may enter into force as soon as possible;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes".

D

NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT WITH A VIEW TO THE ULTIMATE ELIMINATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/75 H of 15 December 1994, 50/70 C of 12 December 1995, 51/45 G of 10 December 1996, 52/38 K of 9 December 1997 and 53/77 U of 4 December 1998,

Bearing in mind the recent nuclear tests, as well as the regional situations, which pose a challenge to international efforts to strengthen the global regime of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons,

Noting the progress made in commencing the discussions between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on START III,

Welcoming the efforts to increase transparency in nuclear disarmament activities as a contribution towards building international confidence and security,

Also welcoming the international efforts to promote the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[56] at the conference convened at Vienna from 6 to 8 October 1999[57] in accordance with article XIV of the Treaty,

Taking note of the report of the Tokyo Forum for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament,[58] bearing in mind the views of Member States on the report,

Recognizing that the enhancement of international peace and security and the promotion of nuclear disarmament mutually complement and strengthen each other,

Reaffirming the crucial importance of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[43] as the cornerstone of the international regime for nuclear non-proliferation and as an essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament,

Also reaffirming the conviction that further advancement in nuclear disarmament will contribute to consolidating the international regime for nuclear non-proliferation, ensuring international peace and security,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of achieving the universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[43] and calls upon States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it without delay and without conditions;

2. *Also reaffirms* the importance for all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to fulfil their obligations under the Treaty;

3. *Calls* for the determined pursuit by the nuclear-weapon States of systematic and progressive efforts to reduce nuclear weapons globally, with the ultimate goal of eliminating those weapons, and by all States of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control;

4. *Stresses* that, in order to make advancements towards the ultimate goal of eliminating nuclear weapons, it is important and necessary to pursue such actions as:

(*a*) The early signature and ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[56] by all States, especially by those States whose ratification is required for its entry into force, with a view to its early entry into force, as well as the cessation of nuclear tests pending its entry into force;

(*b*) Intensive negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament on the early conclusion of a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator of 1995[59] and the mandate contained therein, and, pending its entry into force, a moratorium on the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons;

(*c*) Multilateral discussions on possible future steps on nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation;

(*d*) The early entry into force of the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START II)[60] and the early commencement and conclusion of negotiations for START III by the Russian Federation and the United States of America, and the continuation of the process beyond START III;

(*e*) Further efforts by the five nuclear-weapon States to reduce their nuclear arsenals unilaterally and through their negotiations;

5. *Invites* the nuclear-weapon States to keep the States Members of the United Nations duly informed of the progress or efforts made towards nuclear disarmament;

6. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts in the dismantlement of nuclear weapons, notes the importance of the safe and effective management of the resultant fissile material, and calls

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[55] See GOV/INF/821–GC(41)/INF/12, appendix I.

[56] See resolution 50/245.

[57] See A/54/514–S/1999/1102, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1999*, document S/1999/1102.

[58] A/54/205–S/1999/853, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999*, document S/1999/853.

[59] CD/1299.

[60] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 18: 1993 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.IX.1), appendix II.

for continued efforts by States that possess fissile material no longer required for defence purposes to make such material available for safeguards by the International Atomic Energy Agency as soon as practicable;

7. *Calls upon* all States to redouble their efforts to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, *inter alia*, nuclear weapons, confirming and strengthening if necessary their policies not to export equipment, materials or technology that could contribute to the proliferation of those weapons;

8. *Stresses* the importance of the Model Protocol Additional to the Agreement(s) between State(s) and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards[61] for ensuring nuclear non-proliferation, and encourages all States that have not done so to conclude an additional protocol with the International Atomic Energy Agency as soon as possible;

9. *Underlines* the vital importance of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons for the preservation and strengthening of the regime anchored in the Treaty, and calls upon all States parties to the Treaty to reaffirm the decisions and the resolution adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty[62] and to intensify their efforts with a view to reaching an agreement on updated objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, based on a review of the achievements since 1995;

10. *Encourages* the constructive role played by civil society in promoting nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament.

E

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, STOCKPILING AND USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject of chemical weapons, in particular resolution 53/77 R of 4 December 1998, adopted without a vote, in which it noted with appreciation the ongoing work to achieve the objective and purpose of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,[63]

Determined to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and their destruction,

Noting with satisfaction that, since the adoption of resolution 53/77 R, six additional States have ratified the Convention, bringing the total number of States parties to the Convention to one hundred and twenty-six,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing work of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to achieve the objective and purpose of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, to ensure the full implementation of its provisions, including those for international verification of compliance with it, and to provide a forum for consultation and cooperation among States parties;

2. *Stresses* the importance of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in verifying compliance with the provisions of the Convention as well as in promoting the timely and efficient accomplishment of all its objectives;

3. *Also stresses* the vital importance of full and effective implementation of and compliance with all provisions of the Convention;

4. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to meet in full and on time their obligations under the Convention and to support the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in its implementation activities;

5. *Emphasizes* the necessity of universal adherence to the Convention, and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to become States parties to the Convention without delay;

6. *Stresses* the importance to the Convention that all possessors of chemical weapons, chemical weapons production facilities and chemical weapons development facilities, including previously declared possessor States, should be among the States parties to the Convention, and welcomes progress to that end;

7. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and efforts towards the prompt conclusion of a relationship agreement between the United Nations and the Organization, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction".

F

MISSILES

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations in the field of arms regulation and disarmament and the commitment of Member States to take concrete steps to strengthen that role,

Realizing the need to promote regional and international peace and security in a world free from the scourge of war and the burden of armaments,

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[61] International Atomic Energy Agency, INFCIRC/540 (Corrected).

[62] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)), annex.

[63] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), appendix I.

Convinced of the need for a comprehensive approach towards missiles, in a balanced and non-discriminatory manner, as a contribution to international peace and security,

Bearing in mind that the security concerns of Member States at the international and regional levels should be taken into consideration in addressing the issue of missiles,

Underlining the complexities involved in considering the issue of missiles in the conventional context,

Expressing its support for the international efforts against the development and proliferation of all weapons of mass destruction,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of all Member States on the issue of missiles in all its aspects, and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

2. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session an item entitled "Missiles".

G

TOWARDS A NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE WORLD: THE NEED FOR A NEW AGENDA

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the existence of nuclear weapons is a threat to the survival of humanity,

Concerned at the prospect of the indefinite possession of nuclear weapons, believing that the contention that nuclear weapons can be retained in perpetuity and never used is not supported by the history of human experience, and convinced that the only complete defence is the elimination of nuclear weapons and the assurance that they will never be produced again,

Concerned also at the continued retention of the nuclear-weapons option by those three States that are nuclear-weapons-capable and that have not acceded to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[41] and concerned at their failure to renounce that option,

Concerned further that negotiations on nuclear arms reductions are currently stalled,

Bearing in mind that the overwhelming majority of States have entered into legally binding commitments not to receive, manufacture or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, and recalling that these undertakings were made in the context of the corresponding legally binding commitments by the nuclear-weapon States to the pursuit of nuclear disarmament,

Recalling the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice in its 1996 advisory opinion[64] that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

Stressing that the international community must not enter the new millennium with the prospect that the possession of nuclear weapons will be considered legitimate for the indefinite future, and convinced of the imperative to proceed with determination to prohibit and eradicate them for all time,

Recognizing that the total elimination of nuclear weapons will require measures to be taken firstly by those nuclear-weapon States that have the largest arsenals, and stressing that these States must be joined in a seamless process by those nuclear-weapon States with lesser arsenals in the near future,

Welcoming the achievements to date and the future promise of the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks process and the possibility it offers for development as a plurilateral mechanism including all the nuclear-weapon States, for the practical dismantling and destruction of nuclear armaments undertaken in pursuit of the elimination of nuclear weapons,

Welcoming also the Trilateral Initiative between the United States of America, the Russian Federation and the International Atomic Energy Agency to ensure the irreversible removal of fissile materials from weapons programmes,

Believing that there are a number of practical steps that the nuclear-weapon States can and should take immediately before the actual elimination of nuclear arsenals and the development of requisite verification regimes take place, and in this connection noting certain recent unilateral and other steps,

Underlining that the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems[42] remains a cornerstone of strategic stability,

Stressing that each article of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is binding on the respective States parties at all times and in all circumstances,

Stressing also the importance of pursuing negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament in the Ad Hoc Committee established under item 1 of its agenda entitled "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament", on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator[54] and the mandate contained therein, on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, and considering that such a treaty must further underpin the process towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Emphasizing that, for the total elimination of nuclear weapons to be achieved, effective international cooperation to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons is vital and must be enhanced through, *inter alia*, the extension of international controls over all fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices,

Emphasizing also the importance of existing nuclear-weapon-free-zone treaties and of the early signature and ratification of the relevant protocols to those treaties,

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[64] *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, 8 July 1996* (A/51/218, annex).

Noting the joint ministerial declaration of 9 June 1998[65] and its call for a new international agenda to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world, through the pursuit, in parallel, of a series of mutually reinforcing measures at the bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral levels,

Acknowledging the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 53/77 Y of 4 December 1998,[66]

Taking note of the observations of the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency contained in the report of the Secretary-General,[67]

1. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to make an unequivocal undertaking to accomplish the speedy and total elimination of their nuclear arsenals and to engage without delay in an accelerated process of negotiations, thus achieving nuclear disarmament, to which they are committed under article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[43]

2. *Calls upon* the United States of America and the Russian Federation to bring the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START II)[60] into force without further delay and to commence negotiations on START III with a view to its early conclusion;

3. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to undertake the necessary steps towards the seamless integration of all five nuclear-weapon States into the process leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons;

4. *Calls* for the examination of ways and means to diminish the role of nuclear weapons in security policies so as to enhance strategic stability, facilitate the process of the elimination of these weapons and contribute to international confidence and security;

5. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States, in this context, to take early steps:

(*a*) To reduce tactical nuclear weapons with a view to their elimination as an integral part of nuclear arms reductions;

(*b*) To examine the possibilities for and to proceed to the de-alerting and removal of nuclear warheads from delivery vehicles;

(*c*) To examine nuclear weapons policies and postures further;

(*d*) To demonstrate transparency with regard to their nuclear arsenals and fissile material inventories;

(*e*) To place all fissile material for nuclear weapons declared to be in excess of military requirements under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards in the framework of the voluntary safeguards agreements in place;

6. *Calls upon* those three States that are nuclear weapons capable and that have not yet acceded to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to reverse clearly and urgently the pursuit of all nuclear weapons development or deployment and to refrain from any action that could undermine regional and international peace and security and the efforts of the international community towards nuclear disarmament and the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons;

7. *Calls upon* those States that have not yet done so to adhere unconditionally and without delay to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and to take all the necessary measures which flow from adherence to that instrument as non-nuclear-weapon States;

8. *Calls upon* those States that have not yet done so to conclude full-scope safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency and to conclude additional protocols to their safeguards agreements on the basis of the Model Protocol approved by the Board of Governors of the Agency on 15 May 1997;[67]

9. *Calls upon* those States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify, unconditionally and without delay, the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[56] and, pending the entry into force of the Treaty, to observe a moratorium on nuclear tests;

10. *Calls upon* those States that have not yet done so to adhere to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material[68] and to work towards its further strengthening;

11. *Urges* the development of the Trilateral Initiative between the United States of America, the Russian Federation and the International Atomic Energy Agency, and urges that similar arrangements be developed by the other nuclear-weapon States;

12. *Calls upon* the Conference on Disarmament to re-establish the Ad Hoc Committee under item 1 of its agenda entitled "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament", on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator[59] and the mandate contained therein, of a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, taking into consideration both nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament objectives, and to pursue and conclude these negotiations without delay, and, pending the entry into force of the treaty, urges all States to observe a moratorium on the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;

13. *Also calls upon* the Conference on Disarmament to establish an appropriate subsidiary body to deal with nuclear disarmament and, to that end, to pursue as a matter of priority its intensive consultations on appropriate methods and approaches with a view to reaching such a decision without delay;

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[65] A/53/138, annex.

[66] A/54/372.

[67] Ibid., sect. III.A.

[68] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1456, No. 24631.

14. *Considers* that an international conference on nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, which would effectively complement efforts being undertaken in other settings, could facilitate the consolidation of a new agenda for a nuclear-weapon-free world;

15. *Notes*, in this context, that the Millennium Summit of the United Nations in 2000 will consider peace, security and disarmament;

16. *Stresses* the importance of the full implementation of the decisions and the resolution adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[62] and, in this connection, underlines the significance of the forthcoming Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to be held in April/May 2000;

17. *Affirms* that the development of verification arrangements will be necessary for the maintenance of a world free from nuclear weapons, and requests the International Atomic Energy Agency, together with any other relevant international organizations and bodies, to continue to explore the elements of such a system;

18. *Calls for* the conclusion of an internationally legally binding instrument to effectively assure non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

19. *Stresses* that the pursuit, extension and establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at, especially in regions of tension, such as the Middle East and South Asia, represent a significant contribution to the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world;

20. *Affirms* that a nuclear-weapon-free world will ultimately require the underpinnings of a universal and multilaterally negotiated legally binding instrument or a framework encompassing a mutually reinforcing set of instruments;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to compile a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: the need for a new agenda", and to review the implementation of the present resolution.

H

CONSOLIDATION OF PEACE THROUGH PRACTICAL DISARMAMENT MEASURES

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/45 N of 10 December 1996, 52/38 G of 9 December 1997 and 53/77 M of 4 December 1998,

Convinced that a comprehensive and integrated approach towards certain practical disarmament measures, such as, *inter alia*, arms control, particularly with regard to small arms and light weapons, confidence-building measures, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants, demining and conversion, often is a prerequisite to maintaining and consolidating peace and security and thus provides a basis for effective rehabilitation and social and economic development in areas that have suffered from conflict,

Noting with satisfaction that the international community is more than ever aware of the importance of such practical disarmament measures, especially with regard to the growing problems arising from the excessive and destabilizing accumulation and proliferation of small arms and light weapons, which pose a threat to peace and security and reduce the prospects for economic development in many regions, particularly in post-conflict situations,

Stressing that further efforts are needed in order to develop and effectively implement programmes of practical disarmament in affected areas,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General prepared with the assistance of the Group of Governmental Experts on Small Arms,[68] and in particular the recommendations contained therein, as an important contribution to the consolidation of the peace process through practical disarmament measures,

1. *Welcomes* the adoption by consensus of the "Guidelines on conventional arms control/limitation and disarmament, with particular emphasis on consolidation of peace in the context of General Assembly resolution 51/45 N"[69] at the 1999 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission;

2. *Stresses* the particular relevance of the guidelines in the context of the present resolution;

3. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures, submitted pursuant to resolution 51/45 N,[70] and once again encourages Member States, as well as regional arrangements and agencies, to lend their support to the implementation of recommendations contained therein;

4. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken by the group of interested States that was formed in New York in March 1998, and invites the group to continue to analyse lessons learned from previous disarmament and peace-building projects, as well as to promote new practical disarmament measures to consolidate peace, especially as undertaken or designed by affected States themselves;

5. *Encourages* Member States, including the group of interested States, to lend their support to the Secretary-General in responding to requests by Member States to collect and destroy small arms and light weapons in post-conflict situations;

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[68] A/54/258.

[69] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42), annex III.

[70] A/52/289.

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures".

I

TRANSPARENCY IN ARMAMENTS

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, Member States have undertaken to promote the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security with the least diversion for armaments of the world's human and economic resources,

Considering the urgent need to accelerate efforts towards general and complete disarmament with a view to maintaining regional and international peace and security in a world free from the scourge of war and the burden of all types of armaments,

Considering also that openness and transparency relating to all types of armaments would contribute greatly to confidence-building and security among States,

Recognizing that an enhanced level of transparency relating to both conventional weapons and weapons of mass destruction and transfers of equipment and technologies directly related to the development and manufacture of such weapons, as well as to high technology with military applications, would promote stability, strengthen regional and international peace and security, and accelerate efforts towards general and complete disarmament,

Convinced that the principle of transparency should also apply to all weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and to transfers of equipment and technology directly related to the development and manufacture of such weapons, as well as to high technology with military applications,

Recognizing that the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms,[72] in its current form, constitutes an important first step towards the promotion of transparency in military matters on a comprehensive, universal and non-discriminatory basis,

Aware of the need to foster international efforts in this direction through, *inter alia*, the constant review of the operation of the Register with a view to its development,

Stressing the need to achieve universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[40] and of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction[53] and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[73] with a view to realizing the goal of the total elimination of all weapons of mass destruction,

Recalling its earlier resolutions on transparency in armaments,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on transparency in armaments;[74]

2. *Recalls* the reports of the Group of Governmental Experts on the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms, which convened in 1994 and 1997 to consider the continuing operation of the Register[72] and its development, and the views expressed and proposals presented therein;

3. *Recognizes* the importance of achieving greater progress in the development of the Register in order that it may truly enhance confidence-building and security among States and accelerate efforts towards attainment of general and complete disarmament;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the Group of Governmental Experts to be convened in the year 2000 and taking into account the views submitted by Member States, to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on:

(*a*) The early expansion of the scope of the Register;

(*b*) The elaboration of practical means for the development of the Register in order to increase transparency related to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and to transfers of equipment and technology directly related to the development and manufacture of such weapons;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Transparency in armaments".

J

ASSISTANCE TO STATES FOR CURBING THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN SMALL ARMS AND COLLECTING THEM

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/77 B of 4 December 1998,

Considering that the illicit proliferation and circulation of and traffic in small arms constitute an impediment to development, a threat to populations and to national and regional security and are a factor contributing to the destabilization of States,

Gravely concerned at the extent of the illicit proliferation and circulation of and traffic in small arms in the States of the Saharo-Sahelian subregion,

Welcoming the conclusions of the United Nations advisory missions sent to the affected countries of the subregion by the Secretary-General to study the best way of curbing the illicit circulation of small arms and ensuring their collection,

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[72] See resolution 46/36 L.

[73] Resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.

[74] A/54/226 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2.

Welcoming also the designation of the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat as the coordination centre for all United Nations activities concerning small arms,

Thanking the Secretary-General for his report on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[75] and bearing in mind the statement on small arms made by the President of the Security Council on 24 September 1999,[76]

Welcoming the recommendations made at the meetings of the States of the subregion held at Banjul, Algiers, Bamako, Yamoussoukro and Niamey to establish close regional cooperation with a view to strengthening security,

Welcoming also the initiative taken by the Economic Community of West African States concerning the declaration of a moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of small arms and light weapons in West Africa,

Recalling the Algiers Declaration[77] adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, held at Algiers from 12 to 14 July 1999, and bearing in mind the report of the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity on the illicit proliferation and circulation of and traffic in small arms,

Bearing in mind the reports of the Panel of Governmental Experts on Small Arms,

Emphasizing the need to advance efforts towards wider cooperation and better coordination in the struggle against the accumulation, proliferation and widespread use of small arms through the common understanding reached at the meeting on small arms held at Oslo on 13 and 14 July 1998[78] and the Brussels Call for Action adopted by the International Conference on Sustainable Disarmament for Sustainable Development, held at Brussels on 12 and 13 October 1998,[79]

1. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts, in the context of the implementation of resolution 49/75 G of 15 December 1994 and of the recommendations of the United Nations advisory missions, to curb the illicit circulation of small arms and to collect such arms in the affected States that so request, with the support of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and in close cooperation with the Organization of African Unity;

2. *Also encourages* the setting up in the countries of the Saharo-Sahelian subregion of national commissions against the proliferation of small arms, and invites the international community to support as far as possible the smooth functioning of the national commissions where they have been set up;

3. *Welcomes* the Declaration of a Moratorium on the Importation, Exportation and Manufacture of Small Arms and Light Weapons in West Africa, adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States at Abuja on 31 October 1998,[80] and urges the international community to give its support to the implementation of the moratorium;

4. *Takes note* of the conclusions of the meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Economic Community of West African States, held at Bamako on 24 and 25 March 1999, on the modalities for the implementation of the Programme for Coordination and Assistance for Security and Development, and welcomes the adoption at the meeting of a plan of action;

5. *Expresses its full support* for the appeal launched by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session for a coordinated African approach, under the auspices of the Organization of African Unity, to the problems posed by the illicit proliferation and circulation of and traffic in small arms, bearing in mind the experiences and activities of the various regions in this regard;[81]

6. *Also expresses its full support* for the convening of an international conference on the illicit arms trade in all its aspects no later than 2001, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 53/77 E of 4 December 1998;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to examine the question and to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them".

K

REDUCING NUCLEAR DANGER

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

Reaffirming that any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would constitute a violation of the Charter of the United Nations,

Convinced that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects would seriously enhance the danger of nuclear war,

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[75] A/52/871–S/1998/318; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1998*, document S/1998/318.

[76] S/PRST/1999/28; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1999*.

[77] A/54/424, annex II, decision AHG/Decl.1 (XXXV).

[78] See CD/1556.

[79] A/53/681, annex.

[80] A/53/763–S/1998/1194, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1998*, document S/1998/1194.

[81] A/54/424, annex II, decision AHG/Dec.137 (XXXV), para. 10.

Convinced also that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

Considering that until nuclear weapons cease to exist, it is imperative on the part of the nuclear-weapon States to adopt measures that assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering also that the hair-trigger alert of nuclear weapons carries unacceptable risks of unintentional or accidental use of nuclear weapons, which would have catastrophic consequences for all mankind,

Emphasizing the imperative need to adopt measures to avoid accidental, unauthorized or unexplained incidents arising from computer anomaly or other technical malfunctions before the next millennium,

Conscious that limited steps relating to detargeting have been taken by the nuclear-weapon States and that further practical, realistic and mutually reinforcing steps are necessary to contribute to the improvement in the international climate for negotiations leading to the elimination of nuclear weapons,

Mindful that reduction of tensions brought about by a change in nuclear doctrines would positively impact on international peace and security and improve the conditions for the further reduction and the elimination of nuclear weapons,

Reiterating the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[53] and by the international community,

Recalling that the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*[82] states that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

1. *Calls* for a review of nuclear doctrines and, in this context, immediate and urgent steps to reduce the risks of unintentional and accidental use of nuclear weapons;

2. *Requests* the five nuclear-weapon States to undertake measures towards the implementation of paragraph 1 of the present resolution;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to take the necessary measures to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to promote nuclear disarmament, with the ultimate objective of eliminating nuclear weapons;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to seek inputs from the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters on information with regard to specific measures that would significantly reduce the risk of nuclear war and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Reducing nuclear danger".

L

NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE AND ADJACENT AREAS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/45 B of 10 December 1996, 52/38 N of 9 December 1997 and 53/77 Q of 4 December 1998,

Welcoming the adoption by the Disarmament Commission at its 1999 substantive session of a text entitled "Establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned",[83]

Determined to continue to contribute to the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to the process of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control, in particular in the field of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, with a view to strengthening international peace and security, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the provisions on nuclear-weapon-free zones of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[53] the first special session devoted to disarmament, as well as of the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[84]

Stressing the importance of the treaties of Tlatelolco,[85] Rarotonga,[86] Bangkok[87] and Pelindaba,[88] establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, as well as the Antarctic Treaty,[89] to, *inter alia*, the ultimate objective of achieving a world entirely free of nuclear weapons, and underlining also the value of enhancing cooperation among the nuclear-weapon-free zone treaty members by means of mechanisms such as joint meetings of States parties, signatories and observers to those treaties,

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[82] A/51/218, annex.

[83] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42), annex I.

[84] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)), annex, decision 2.

[85] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[86] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[87] Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone.

[88] A/50/426, annex.

[89] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

Recalling the applicable principles and rules of international law relating to the freedom of the high seas and the rights of passage through maritime space, including those of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[90]

1. *Welcomes* the continued contribution that the Antarctic Treaty[89] and the treaties of Tlatelolco,[85] Rarotonga,[86] Bangkok[87] and Pelindaba[88] are making towards freeing the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons;

2. *Calls* for the ratification of the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba by all States of the region concerned, and calls upon all concerned States to continue to work together in order to facilitate adherence to the protocols to nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties by all relevant States that have not yet done so;

3. *Welcomes* the steps taken to conclude further nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, and calls upon all States to consider all relevant proposals, including those reflected in General Assembly resolutions on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in the Middle East and South Asia;

4. *Reiterates* the important role of nuclear-weapon-free zones in strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and in extending the areas of the world that are nuclear-weapon-free, and, with particular reference to the responsibilities of the nuclear-weapon States, calls upon all States to support the process of nuclear disarmament, with the ultimate goal of eliminating all nuclear weapons;

5. *Calls upon* the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba, in order to pursue the common goals envisaged in those treaties and to promote the nuclear-weapon-free status of the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas, to explore and implement further ways and means of cooperation among themselves and their treaty agencies;

6. *Encourages* the competent authorities of nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties to provide assistance to the States parties and signatories to such treaties so as to facilitate the accomplishment of these goals;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas".

M

CONVENTIONAL ARMS CONTROL AT THE REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL LEVELS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/75 J of 16 December 1993, 49/75 O of 15 December 1994, 50/70 L of 12 December 1995, 51/45 Q of 10 December 1996, 52/38 Q of 9 December 1997 and 53/77 P of 4 December 1998,

Recognizing the crucial role of conventional arms control in promoting regional and international peace and security,

Convinced that conventional arms control needs to be pursued primarily in the regional and subregional contexts since most threats to peace and security in the post-cold-war era arise mainly among States located in the same region or subregion,

Aware that the preservation of a balance in the defence capabilities of States at the lowest level of armaments would contribute to peace and stability and should be a prime objective of conventional arms control,

Desirous of promoting agreements to strengthen regional peace and security at the lowest possible level of armaments and military forces,

Noting with particular interest the initiatives taken in this regard in different regions of the world, in particular the commencement of consultations among a number of Latin American countries and the proposals for conventional arms control made in the context of South Asia, and recognizing, in the context of this subject, the relevance and value of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe,[91] which is a cornerstone of European security,

Believing that militarily significant States and States with larger military capabilities have a special responsibility in promoting such agreements for regional security,

Believing also that an important objective of conventional arms control in regions of tension should be to prevent the possibility of military attack launched by surprise and to avoid aggression,

1. *Decides* to give urgent consideration to the issues involved in conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament, as a first step, to consider the formulation of principles that can serve as a framework for regional agreements on conventional arms control, and looks forward to a report of the Conference on this subject;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels".

N

REGIONAL DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/58 P of 4 December 1990, 46/36 I of 6 December 1991, 47/52 J of 9 December 1992, 48/75 I of 16 December 1993, 49/75 N of 15 December 1994, 50/70 K of 12 December 1995, 51/45 K of 10 December 1996, 52/38 P of 9 December 1997 and 53/77 O of 4 December 1998 on regional disarmament,

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[90] *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea*, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

[91] CD/1064.

Believing that the efforts of the international community to move towards the ideal of general and complete disarmament are guided by the inherent human desire for genuine peace and security, the elimination of the danger of war and the release of economic, intellectual and other resources for peaceful pursuits,

Affirming the abiding commitment of all States to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations in the conduct of their international relations,

Noting that essential guidelines for progress towards general and complete disarmament were adopted at the tenth special session of the General Assembly,[51]

Taking note of the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its 1993 substantive session,[92]

Welcoming the prospects of genuine progress in the field of disarmament engendered in recent years as a result of negotiations between the two super-Powers,

Taking note of the recent proposals for disarmament at the regional and subregional levels,

Recognizing the importance of confidence-building measures for regional and international peace and security,

Convinced that endeavours by countries to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region and in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, would enhance the security of all States and would thus contribute to international peace and security by reducing the risk of regional conflicts,

1. *Stresses* that sustained efforts are needed, within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament and under the umbrella of the United Nations, to make progress on the entire range of disarmament issues;

2. *Affirms* that global and regional approaches to disarmament complement each other and should therefore be pursued simultaneously to promote regional and international peace and security;

3. *Calls upon* States to conclude agreements, wherever possible, for nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels;

4. *Welcomes* the initiatives towards disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and security undertaken by some countries at the regional and subregional levels;

5. *Supports and encourages* efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation measures at the regional and subregional levels;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Regional disarmament".

O

TRANSPARENCY IN ARMAMENTS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/36 L of 9 December 1991, 47/52 L of 15 December 1992, 48/75 E of 16 December 1993, 49/75 C of 15 December 1994, 50/70 D of 12 December 1995, 51/45 H of 10 December 1996, 52/38 R of 9 December 1997 and 53/77 V of 4 December 1998 entitled "Transparency in armaments",

Continuing to take the view that an enhanced level of transparency in armaments contributes greatly to confidence-building and security among States and that the establishment of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms[72] constitutes an important step forward in the promotion of transparency in military matters,

Welcoming the consolidated report of the Secretary-General on the Register,[74] which contains the returns of Member States for 1998,

Welcoming also the response of Member States to the request contained in paragraphs 9 and 10 of resolution 46/36 L to provide data on their imports and exports of arms, as well as available background information regarding their military holdings, procurement through national production and relevant policies,

Stressing that the continuing operation of the Register and its further development should be reviewed in order to secure a Register that is capable of attracting the widest possible participation,

1. *Reaffirms* its determination to ensure the effective operation of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms,[72] as provided for in paragraphs 7 to 10 of resolution 46/36 L;

2. *Calls upon* Member States, with a view to achieving universal participation, to provide the Secretary-General by 31 May annually with the requested data and information for the Register, including nil reports if appropriate, on the basis of resolutions 46/36 L and 47/52 L and the recommendations contained in paragraph 64 of the 1997 report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development;[93]

3. *Invites* Member States in a position to do so, pending further development of the Register, to provide additional information on procurement from national production and military holdings and to make use of the "Remarks" column in the standardized reporting form to provide additional information such as types and models;

4. *Reaffirms* its decision, with a view to further development of the Register, to keep the scope of and participation in the Register under review and, to that end, recalls:

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[92] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/48/42), annex II.

[93] A/52/316 and Corr.2.

(*a*) Its request to Member States to provide the Secretary-General with their views on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and on transparency measures related to weapons of mass destruction;

(*b*) Its request to the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts to be convened in 2000, on the basis of equitable geographical representation, to prepare a report on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, taking into account the work of the Conference on Disarmament, the views expressed by Member States and his reports on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development,[94] with a view to a decision at its fifty-fifth session;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that sufficient resources are made available for the Secretariat to operate and maintain the Register;

6. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to consider continuing its work undertaken in the field of transparency in armaments;

7. *Reiterates its call upon* all Member States to cooperate at the regional and subregional levels, taking fully into account the specific conditions prevailing in the region or subregion, with a view to enhancing and coordinating international efforts aimed at increased openness and transparency in armaments;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on progress made in implementing the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Transparency in armaments".

P

NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/75 E of 15 December 1994 on a step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat, and its resolutions 50/70 P of 12 December 1995, 51/45 O of 10 December 1996, 52/38 L of 9 December 1997 and 53/77 X of 4 December 1998 on nuclear disarmament,

Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Bearing in mind that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1972[73] and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1993[63] have already established legal regimes on the complete prohibition of biological and chemical weapons, respectively, and determined to achieve a nuclear weapons convention on the prohibition of the development, testing, production, stockpiling, loan, transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons and on their destruction, and to conclude such an international convention at an early date,

Recognizing that there now exist conditions for the establishment of a world free of nuclear weapons,

Bearing in mind paragraph 50 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[53] the first special session devoted to disarmament, calling for the urgent negotiation of agreements for the cessation of the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear-weapon systems, and for a comprehensive and phased programme with agreed time-frames, wherever feasible, for the progressive and balanced reduction of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery, leading to their ultimate and complete elimination at the earliest possible time,

Noting the reiteration by the States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[41] of their conviction that the Treaty is a cornerstone of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament and the reaffirmation by the States parties of the importance of the decision on strengthening the review process for the Treaty,[62] the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament,[62] the decision on the extension of the Treaty[62] and the resolution on the Middle East,[52] adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Reiterating the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly and by the international community,

Recognizing that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[56] and any proposed treaty on fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices must constitute disarmament measures, and not only non-proliferation measures, and that these measures, together with an international legal instrument on the joint undertaking of no first use of nuclear weapons by the nuclear-weapon States and on adequate security assurances of non-use and non-threat of use of such weapons for non-nuclear-weapon States, respectively, and an international convention prohibiting the use of nuclear weapons, should be integral measures in a programme leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Welcoming the entry into force of the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START I),[95] to which Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States of America are States parties,

Welcoming also the conclusion of the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START II)[60] by the Russian Federation and the United States of America and the ratification of that Treaty by the United States of America, and looking forward to the full implementation of the START I and START II Treaties by the

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[94] A/49/316 and A/52/316 and Corr.2.

[95] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 16: 1991 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.92.IX.1), appendix II.

States parties, and to further concrete steps for nuclear disarmament by all the nuclear-weapon States,

Welcoming further the joint declaration of the Russian Federation and the United States of America to commence START III negotiations, regardless of the status of completion of the START II process,

Noting with appreciation the unilateral measures by the nuclear-weapon States for nuclear arms limitation, and encouraging them to undertake further such measures,

Recognizing the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament, and that bilateral negotiations can never replace multilateral negotiations in this respect,

Noting the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and the multilateral efforts in the Conference on Disarmament to reach agreement on such an international convention at an early date,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*, issued on 8 July 1996,[82] and welcoming the unanimous reaffirmation by all Judges of the Court that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

Mindful of paragraph 114 and other relevant recommendations in the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[96] calling upon the Conference on Disarmament to establish, on a priority basis, an ad hoc committee to commence negotiations in 1998 on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament and for the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time,

Bearing in mind the proposal of twenty-eight delegations to the Conference on Disarmament that are members of the Group of 21 for a programme of action for the elimination of nuclear weapons,[97] and expressing its conviction that this proposal will be an important input and will contribute to negotiations on this question in the Conference,

Commending the initiative by twenty-six delegations to the Conference on Disarmament that are members of the Group of 21[98] proposing a comprehensive mandate for an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament, which includes negotiations for, as a first step, a universal and legally binding multilateral agreement committing all States to the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, an agreement on further steps required in a phased programme leading to the total elimination of these weapons and a convention on the prohibition of the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices taking into account the report of the Special Coordinator on that item[59] and the views relating to the scope of the treaty,

Recalling paragraphs 38 to 50 of the final communiqué of the meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the Non-Aligned Countries, held in New York on 23 September 1999,[99]

Taking note of the draft decision and mandate on the establishment of an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament proposed by the Group of 21,[100]

1. *Recognizes* that, in view of recent political developments, the time is now opportune for all the nuclear-weapon States to undertake effective disarmament measures with a view to the total elimination of these weapons;

2. *Also recognizes* that there is a genuine need to de-emphasize the role of nuclear weapons and to review and revise nuclear doctrines accordingly;

3. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to stop immediately the qualitative improvement, development, production and stockpiling of nuclear warheads and their delivery systems;

4. *Also urges* the nuclear-weapon States, as an interim measure, to de-alert and deactivate immediately their nuclear weapons;

5. *Calls* for the conclusion, as a first step, of a universal and legally binding multilateral agreement committing States to the process of nuclear disarmament leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons;

6. *Reiterates its calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to undertake the step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat and to carry out effective nuclear disarmament measures with a view to the total elimination of these weapons;

7. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States, pending the achievement of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, to agree on an internationally and legally binding instrument on the joint undertaking not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, and calls upon all States to conclude an internationally and legally binding instrument on security assurances of non-use and non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States;

8. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to commence plurilateral negotiations among themselves at an appropriate stage on further deep reductions of nuclear weapons as an effective measure of nuclear disarmament;

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[96] A/53/667–S/1998/1071, annex I; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1998*, document S/1998/1071.

[97] A/C.1/51/12, annex.

[98] CD/1463.

[99] A/54/469–S/1999/1063, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1999*, document S/1999/1063.

[100] CD/1571.

9. *Welcomes* the establishment in the Conference on Disarmament in 1998 of the Ad Hoc Committee on the prohibition of the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, urges a speedy conclusion of a universal and non-discriminatory convention thereon, welcomes the establishment in 1998 of the Ad Hoc Committee on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and urges the pursuit of efforts in this regard as a matter of priority;

10. *Expresses its regret* that the Conference on Disarmament was unable to establish an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament at its 1999 session, as called for in General Assembly resolution 53/77 X;

11. *Reiterates its call upon* the Conference on Disarmament to establish, on a priority basis, an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament to commence negotiations early in 2000 on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament and for the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons, through a set of legal instruments, which may include a nuclear weapons convention;

12. *Calls* for the convening of an international conference on nuclear disarmament at an early date with the objective of arriving at an agreement or agreements on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament and for the eventual total elimination of nuclear weapons, through a set of legal instruments, which may include a nuclear weapons convention;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Nuclear disarmament".

Q

FOLLOW-UP TO THE ADVISORY OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE ON THE *LEGALITY OF THE THREAT OR USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS*

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/75 K of 15 December 1994, 51/45 M of 10 December 1996, 52/38 O of 9 December 1997 and 53/77 W of 4 December 1998,

Convinced that the continuing existence of nuclear weapons poses a threat to all humanity and that their use would have catastrophic consequences for all life on Earth, and recognizing that the only defence against a nuclear catastrophe is the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the certainty that they will never be produced again,

Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the creation of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Mindful of the solemn obligations of States parties, undertaken in article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[43] particularly to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament,

Recalling the principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[84] and in particular the objective of determined pursuit by the nuclear-weapon States of systematic and progressive efforts to reduce nuclear weapons globally, with the ultimate goal of eliminating those weapons,

Recalling also the adoption of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, and expressing its satisfaction at the increasing number of States that have signed and ratified the Treaty,

Recognizing with satisfaction that the Antarctic Treaty[89] and the treaties of Tlatelolco,[85] Rarotonga,[86] Bangkok[87] and Pelindaba[88] are gradually freeing the entire southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons,

Noting the efforts by the States possessing the largest inventories of nuclear weapons to reduce their stockpiles of such weapons through bilateral agreements or arrangements and unilateral decisions, and calling for the intensification of such efforts to accelerate the significant reduction of nuclear-weapon arsenals,

Recognizing the need for a multilaterally negotiated and legally binding instrument to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming the central role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, and regretting the lack of progress in disarmament negotiations, particularly nuclear disarmament, in the Conference on Disarmament during its 1999 session,

Emphasizing the need for the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time,

Desiring to achieve the objective of a legally binding prohibition of the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, threat or use of nuclear weapons and their destruction under effective international control,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*, issued on 8 July 1996,[82]

Taking note of the relevant portions of the note by the Secretary-General[101] relating to the implementation of resolution 53/77 W,

1. *Underlines once again* the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control;

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[101] A/54/161 and Add.1.

2. *Calls once again upon* all States immediately to fulfil that obligation by commencing multilateral negotiations in 2000 leading to an early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention prohibiting the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, transfer, threat or use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination;

3. *Requests* all States to inform the Secretary-General of the efforts and measures they have taken on the implementation of the present resolution and nuclear disarmament, and requests the Secretary-General to apprise the General Assembly of that information at its fifty-fifth session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*".

R

ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN SMALL ARMS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/77 T of 4 December 1998,

Expressing its appreciation to the Secretary-General for the report on the results of his broad-based consultations on the magnitude and scope of the phenomenon of illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons, possible measures to combat illicit trafficking in and illicit circulation of small arms and light weapons, and the role of the United Nations in collecting, collating, sharing and disseminating information on illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons,[102]

Convinced of the importance of national, regional and international measures to combat illicit trafficking in and illicit circulation of small arms and light weapons, including those suited to indigenous regional approaches,

Welcoming in this regard the decision on the illicit proliferation, circulation and trafficking of small arms and light weapons, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, held at Algiers from 12 to 14 July 1999,[103] the entry into force of the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials,[104] the decision on prevention and combating of illicit trafficking in small arms and related crimes, adopted by the Council of Ministers at the nineteenth Summit of Heads of State or Government of the Southern African Development Community, held at Maputo on 17 and 18 August 1999,[105] the initiative taken by States members of the Economic Community of West African States in declaring a moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of small arms and light weapons in West Africa,[80] and the adoption by the European Union of the Programme for Preventing and Combating Illicit Trafficking in Conventional Arms and the other initiatives it has taken, such as the Joint Action on Small Arms[106] that has been endorsed by several Member States not members of the European Union,

Welcoming also the assistance provided by Member States in support of bilateral, regional and multilateral initiatives aimed at addressing illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons,

Mindful of the impact of surplus small arms and light weapons on the illicit trade in these weapons, and welcoming the practical measures taken by Member States to destroy surplus weapons and confiscated or collected weapons, in accordance with the recommendations of the Secretary-General in his reports on small arms,[107]

Recognizing the human suffering caused by illicit trafficking in small arms and that Governments bear the responsibility to intensify their efforts by developing an understanding of the issues and practical ways of addressing the problem,

Bearing in mind the interface between violence, criminality, drug trafficking and terrorism and illicit trafficking in small arms,

Stressing the importance of ongoing efforts to elaborate an international convention against transnational organized crime, including a protocol to combat the illicit manufacturing of and illicit trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, within the framework of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

Considering that the United Nations could, through a coordinated approach, collect, share and disseminate information to Member States on useful and successful practices to prevent the illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons, and mindful of the role of the mechanism for Coordinating Action on Small Arms in this regard,

Emphasizing the importance of increased cooperation and coordination both among the relevant United Nations intergovernmental bodies and within the Secretariat through the mechanism for Coordinating Action on Small Arms in its ongoing initiatives related to illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons,

Noting with appreciation the workshops on illicit trafficking in small arms, held at Lomé and Lima, organized, respectively by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,

Conscious of its decision to convene an international conference on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects no later than 2001,[108] and taking into consideration the recommendations of the Secretary-General in his report on small arms, prepared with the assistance of the

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[102] A/54/404 and Add.1.

[103] A/54/424, annex II, decision AHG/Dec.137 (XXXV).

[104] See A/53/78, annex.

[105] A/54/488-S/1999/1082, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1999*, document S/1999/1082.

[106] A/54/374, annex.

[107] A/52/298 and A/54/258.

[108] See resolution 53/77 E.

Group of Governmental Experts on Small Arms,[69] as well as the views of Member States on the objectives, scope, agenda, dates and venue of such an international conference,[109]

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his broad-based consultations, within available financial resources and with any other assistance provided by Member States in a position to do so, and to submit to the international conference on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects information on the magnitude and scope of illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons, measures to combat illicit trafficking in and circulation of small arms and light weapons, and the role of the United Nations in collecting, collating, sharing and disseminating information on illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons;

2. *Encourages* Member States to promote regional and subregional initiatives and requests the Secretary-General, within available financial resources, and States in a position to do so to assist States in taking such initiatives to address the illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons in affected regions, and invites the Secretary-General to utilize these initiatives as part of his consultations;

3. *Encourages* Member States in a position to do so to take appropriate national measures to destroy surplus small arms and light weapons, confiscated or collected small arms and light weapons, and to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to the Secretary-General on the types and quantities destroyed;

4. *Invites* Member States in a position to do so to continue to provide assistance, bilaterally, regionally and through multilateral channels, such as the United Nations, in support of measures associated with combating illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Illicit traffic in small arms".

S

OBSERVANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL NORMS IN THE DRAFTING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENTS ON DISARMAMENT AND ARMS CONTROL

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/70 M of 12 December 1995, 51/45 E of 10 December 1996, 52/38 E of 9 December 1997 and 53/77 J of 4 December 1998,

Emphasizing the importance of the observance of environmental norms in the preparation and implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements,

Recognizing that it is necessary to take duly into account the agreements adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as well as prior relevant agreements, in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms limitation,

Mindful of the detrimental environmental effects of the use of nuclear weapons,

1. *Reaffirms* that international disarmament forums should take fully into account the relevant environmental norms in negotiating treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms limitation and that all States, through their actions, should fully contribute to ensuring compliance with the aforementioned norms in the implementation of treaties and conventions to which they are parties;

2. *Calls upon* States to adopt unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures so as to contribute to ensuring the application of scientific and technological progress in the framework of international security, disarmament and other related spheres, without detriment to the environment or to its effective contribution to attaining sustainable development;

3. *Welcomes* the information provided by Member States on the implementation of the measures they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution;[110]

4. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General information on the measures they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report containing this information to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control".

T

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[51] concerning the relationship between disarmament and development,

Recalling also the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,[111]

Recalling further its resolutions 49/75 J of 15 December 1994, 50/70 G of 12 December 1995, 51/45 D of 10 December 1996, 52/38 D of 9 December 1997 and 53/77 K of 4 December 1998,

Bearing in mind the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[96]

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[109] A/54/260.

[110] A/54/163 and Add.1.

[111] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.IX.8.

Taking note of the deliberations during the symposium on disarmament and development held at Headquarters on 20 July 1999,[112]

Stressing the growing importance of the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development in current international relations,

1. *Acknowledges* the report of the Secretary-General,[113] and welcomes the establishment, as a first step by the Secretary-General, of the Steering Group on Disarmament and Development with the purpose of determining the short, medium and long-term priorities, according to the mandate set out in the action programme adopted at the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development;[114]

2. *Urges* the international community to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever widening gap between developed and developing countries;

3. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General, by 15 April 2000, their views and proposals for the implementation of the action programme adopted at the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, as well as any other views and proposals with a view to achieving the goals of the action programme, within the framework of current international relations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take action, through appropriate organs and within available resources, for the implementation of the action programme adopted at the International Conference;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Relationship between disarmament and development".

U

CONVENING OF THE FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEVOTED TO DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/75 I of 15 December 1994, 50/70 F of 12 December 1995, 51/45 C of 10 December 1996, 52/38 F of 9 December 1997 and 53/77 AA of 4 December 1998,

Recalling also that, there being a consensus to do so in each case, three special sessions of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament were held in 1978, 1982 and 1988, respectively,

Bearing in mind the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[53] adopted by consensus at the first special session devoted to disarmament, which included the Declaration, the Programme of Action and the Machinery for disarmament,

Bearing in mind also the objective of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Taking note of paragraph 145 of the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[96] which supported the convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, which would offer an opportunity to review, from a perspective more in tune with the current international situation, the most critical aspects of the process of disarmament and to mobilize the international community and public opinion in favour of the elimination of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and of the control and reduction of conventional weapons,

Taking note also of the report of the 1999 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission[115] and of the fact that no consensus was reached on the item entitled "Fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament",

Desiring to build upon the substantive exchange of views on the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament during the 1999 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission,

Reiterating its conviction that a special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament can set the future course of action in the field of disarmament, arms control and related international security matters,

Emphasizing the importance of multilateralism in the process of disarmament, arms control and related international security matters,

Noting that, with the recent accomplishments made by the international community in the field of weapons of mass destruction as well as conventional arms, the following years would be opportune for the international community to start the process of reviewing the state of affairs in the entire field of disarmament and arms control in the post-cold-war era,

1. *Decides*, subject to the emergence of a consensus on its objectives and agenda, to convene the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of States Members of the United Nations on the objectives, agenda and timing of the special session and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament".

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[112] See A/54/254, paras. 11 and 12.

[113] A/54/254.

[114] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.IX.8, para. 35.

[115] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42).

V

SMALL ARMS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/70 B of 12 December 1995, 52/38 J of 9 December 1997 and 53/77 E of 4 December 1998,

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament and the commitment of Member States to take concrete steps in order to strengthen that role,

Recognizing the importance of the role of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in preventing and reducing the excessive and destabilizing accumulations of small arms and light weapons,

Convinced of the need for a comprehensive approach to promote, at the global and regional levels, the control and reduction of small arms and light weapons in a balanced and non-discriminatory manner as a contribution to international peace and security,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1209 (1998) of 19 November 1998 on illicit arms flows to and in Africa and the statement by the President of the Security Council of 24 September 1999 on behalf of the Council in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Small arms",[76]

Taking note of the complementarity of the efforts to prevent and reduce the excessive and destabilizing accumulation and transfer of small arms and light weapons and the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, including a protocol to combat illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition,

Reaffirming the inherent right to individual or collective self-defence recognized in Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, which implies that States also have the right to acquire arms with which to defend themselves,

Reaffirming also the right of self-determination of all peoples, in particular peoples under colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, and the importance of the effective realization of this right, as enunciated, *inter alia*, in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[116]

Concerned about the wide range of humanitarian and socio-economic consequences affecting, in particular, large segments of civilian populations, exacerbated by the illicit trafficking in and the ready availability of small arms and light weapons,

Also concerned about the close link between terrorism, organized crime and drug trafficking, on the one hand, and the uncontrolled spread of small arms and light weapons, on the other, and stressing the importance of international efforts aimed at combating them,

Welcoming the adoption by the Disarmament Commission of the "Guidelines on conventional arms control/limitation and disarmament, with particular emphasis on consolidation of peace in the context of General Assembly resolution 51/45 N",[70]

Also welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on small arms, prepared with the assistance of the Group of Governmental Experts on Small Arms pursuant to General Assembly resolution 52/38 J,[69]

Bearing in mind the note by the Secretary-General on the consultations held with a group of qualified experts to examine the feasibility of carrying out a study on restricting the manufacture and trade of small arms to manufacturers and dealers authorized by States[117] and also his report on the broad-based consultations held by him pursuant to General Assembly resolution 53/77 T of 4 December 1998,[102]

Noting the replies received to date to the request by the Secretary-General to Member States for their views on his report on small arms to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session[118] and on the steps that they have taken to implement its recommendations, in particular, the recommendation concerning the convening of an international conference on the illicit arms trade in all its aspects,[109]

Taking due note of the report of the Group of Experts on the problem of ammunition and explosives,[119]

Welcoming with appreciation the recommendations of the Secretary-General on the international conference on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects to be convened no later than 2001[109] and the relevant recommendations contained in his report on small arms,[69]

Welcoming the offer by the Government of Switzerland to host at Geneva, no later than 2001, an international conference on the illicit arms trade in all its aspects,

1. *Decides* to convene the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects in June/July 2001;

2. *Also decides* that the scope of the Conference shall be the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects;

3. *Further decides* to establish a preparatory committee open to participation by all States, which will hold no fewer than three sessions, the first session to be held in New York from 28 February to 3 March 2000;

4. *Decides* that the specialized agencies, other relevant intergovernmental organizations and relevant entities, having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and in the work of the General Assembly, shall participate, as observers, in the Preparatory Committee, and requests the Committee to take a decision on the modalities of attendance of non-governmental organizations at its sessions;

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[116] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[117] A/54/160.

[118] A/52/298, annex.

[119] See A/54/155.

5. *Requests* the Preparatory Committee to decide, at its first session, on the date and venue of the Conference in 2001 as well as on the dates and venue of its subsequent sessions;

6. *Stresses* the need to ensure the widest possible and effective participation in the Conference in 2001;

7. *Requests* the Preparatory Committee to make recommendations to the Conference on all relevant matters, including the objective, a draft agenda, draft rules of procedure and draft final documents, which will include a programme of action, and to decide on background documents to be made available in advance;

8. *Invites* all Member States, in particular those that have not yet done so, in response to the note verbale of the Secretary-General dated 20 January 1999, to communicate to the Secretary-General their views on the agenda and other relevant questions relating to the Conference;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the replies of Member States relevant to paragraph 8 above to the Preparatory Committee and to render to the Preparatory Committee and the Conference all necessary assistance, including the provision of essential background information, relevant documents and summary records;

10. *Endorses* the report of the Secretary-General on small arms, prepared with the assistance of the Group of Governmental Experts on Small Arms pursuant to General Assembly resolution 52/38 J,[69] bearing in mind the views of Member States on the report;

11. *Calls upon* all Member States to implement the relevant recommendations contained in section IV of that report to the extent possible and where necessary in cooperation with appropriate international and regional organizations and/or through international and regional cooperation;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the report as well as on the implementation of the relevant recommendations contained therein;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to implement the relevant recommendations contained in section IV of the report within available financial resources and with any other assistance provided by States in a position to do so and in cooperation with appropriate international and regional organizations where necessary;

14. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in order to assist in preventing the illicit trafficking in and illicit circulation of small arms and light weapons:

(*a*) To carry out a study, within available financial resources and with any other assistance provided by Member States in a position to do so, and with the assistance of governmental experts appointed by him, on the basis of equitable geographical representation, while seeking the views of Member States, on the feasibility of restricting the manufacture and trade of such weapons to the manufacturers and dealers authorized by States, which will cover the brokering activities, particularly illicit activities, relating to small arms and light weapons, including transportation agents and financial transactions;

(*b*) To submit the study as one of the background documents for the Conference to be held in 2001;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Small arms".

RESOLUTIONS 54/55 A to F

A

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/564) and the amendments in document A/54/L.39, sponsored by: Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and Sao Tome and Principe

B

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/564)

C

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/564)

D

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 104 to 42, with 17 abstentions,[120] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/564)

E

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/564)

F

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/564)

54/55. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly

A

REGIONAL CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES: ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SECURITY QUESTIONS IN CENTRAL AFRICA

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the United Nations and its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 43/78 H and 43/85 of 7 December 1988, 44/21 of 15 November 1989, 45/58 M of 4 December 1990, 46/37 B of 6 December 1991, 47/53 F of 15 December 1992, 48/76 A of 16 December 1993, 49/76 C of

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[120] For details, see annex II.

15 December 1994, 50/71 B of 12 December 1995, 51/46 C of 10 December 1996, 52/39 B of 9 December 1997 and 53/78 A of 4 December 1998,

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken at the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability and to international security,

Convinced that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

Recalling the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Convinced that development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

Bearing in mind the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the subregion,

Recalling the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa,[illegible] the Bata Declaration for the Promotion of Lasting Democracy, Peace and Development in Central Africa,[illegible] and the Yaoundé Declaration on Peace, Security and Stability in Central Africa,[illegible]

Bearing in mind resolutions 1196 (1998) and 1197 (1998), adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998 respectively, following its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[illegible]

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the capacity for conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa,

Recalling the decision of the fourth meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee in favour of establishing, under the auspices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, a subregional centre for human rights and democracy in Central Africa,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on regional confidence-building measures,[illegible] which deals with the activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa in the period since the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 53/78 A;

2. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in the subregion and to further peace, stability and sustainable development in Central Africa;

3. *Also reaffirms its support* for the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee adopted at the organizational meeting of the Committee, held at Yaoundé from 27 to 31 July 1992;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee in implementing the programme of activities for the period 1998–1999, in particular by:

(*a*) Holding a joint meeting of ministers of defence and of the interior at Libreville from 28 to 30 April 1998 on questions of security in Central Africa;

(*b*) Organizing the Subregional Conference on Democratic Institutions and Peace in Central Africa, at Bata, Equatorial Guinea, from 18 to 21 May 1998;

(*c*) Holding a Seminar on the Training of Trainers in Practical Disarmament Measures for the Consolidation of Peace for Senior Military and Civilian Officials at Yaoundé, from 27 to 31 July 1998;

(*d*) Organizing the Subregional High-level Seminar on the Examination and Implementation of the Recommendations Contained in the Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa, at Yaoundé, from 19 to 21 July 1999;

(*e*) Holding the tenth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at Yaoundé from 26 to 30 October 1998;

(*f*) Holding the eleventh ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at Yaoundé from 21 to 23 July 1999;

(*g*) Organizing a subregional conference on the proliferation of and illicit traffic in light weapons and small arms in Central Africa at N'Djamena from 25 to 27 October 1999;

(*h*) Holding the twelfth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at N'Djamena from 27 to 30 October 1999;

[illegible] A/50/474, annex I.

[illegible] A/53/258–S/1998/763, annex II, appendix I; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1998*, document S/1998/763.

[illegible] A/53/868–S/1999/303, annex II; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1999*, document S/1999/303.

[illegible] A/52/871–S/1998/318; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1998*, document S/1998/318.

[illegible] A/54/384.

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of providing the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the essential support they need to carry out the full programme of activities which they adopted at the ninth and tenth ministerial meetings, in particular the organization of joint military exercises to simulate peacekeeping operations;

6. *Welcomes* the creation of a mechanism for the promotion, maintenance and consolidation of peace and security in Central Africa, to be known as the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa, by the summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Central African countries, held at Yaoundé on 25 February 1999, and requests the Secretary-General to give his full support to the realization of that priority objective;

7. *Also welcomes* the decision of the heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of Central African States, meeting at Malabo on 24 June 1999, to integrate the Council into the Community and to establish a network of parliamentarians from the Community with a view to the eventual creation of a parliament of the Community;

8. *Emphasizes* the need to make the early-warning mechanism in Central Africa operational so that it will serve, on the one hand, as an instrument for analysing and monitoring political situations in the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with a view to preventing the outbreak of future armed conflicts and, on the other hand, as a technical body through which the member States will carry out the work programme of the Committee, adopted at its organizational meeting held at Yaoundé in 1992, and requests the Secretary-General to provide it with the assistance necessary for it to function properly;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to lend their support to the establishment of a subregional centre for human rights and democracy in Central Africa;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1197 (1998), to provide the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the necessary support in making operational the early-warning mechanism and the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to support the establishment of a network of parliamentarians with a view to the creation of a subregional parliament in Central Africa;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to provide increased assistance to the countries of Central Africa for coping with the problems of refugees in their territories;

13. *Thanks* the Secretary-General for having established the Trust Fund for the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

14. *Appeals* to Member States and to governmental and non-governmental organizations to make additional voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the implementation of the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee, in particular the activities referred to in paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 above;

15. *Calls upon* the international community, non-governmental organizations and the mass media to support the dissemination of objective information on Central Africa;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with assistance to ensure that they are able to carry on their efforts;

17. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

B

UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT IN AFRICA

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations stipulating that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation,

Recalling its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, and its resolutions 46/36 F of 6 December 1991 and 47/52 G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,

Recalling also its resolutions 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 51/46 E of 10 December 1996, 52/220 of 22 December 1997 and 53/78 C of 4 December 1998,

Aware of the widespread support for the revitalization of the Regional Centre and the important role that the Centre can play in the present context in promoting confidence-building and arms limitation measures at the regional level, thereby promoting progress in the area of sustainable development,

Taking into account the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[124]

Bearing in mind the efforts undertaken in the framework of the revitalization of the activities of the Regional Centre for the mobilization of the resources necessary for its operational costs,

Taking into account the need to establish close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution of the Organization of African Unity, in conformity with the decisions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, held at Algiers from 12 to 14 July 1999,[126]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[127] and commends the activities carried out by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, in particular in support of the efforts made by the African States in the areas of peace and security;

2. *Reaffirms* its strong support for the revitalization of the Regional Centre, and emphasizes the need to provide it with resources to enable it to strengthen its activities and carry out its programmes;

3. *Appeals once again* to all States, as well as to international governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions in order to strengthen the programmes of activities of the Regional Centre and facilitate their implementation;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Regional Centre with all necessary support, within existing resources, for better achievements and results;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate the establishment of close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the Organization of African Unity, in particular in the area of peace, security and development, and to continue to assist the Director of the Regional Centre in his efforts to stabilize the financial situation of the Centre and revitalize its activities;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa".

C

UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, by which it established the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and renamed it the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, with headquarters at Kathmandu and with the mandate of providing, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament, through appropriate utilization of available resources,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[128] in which he expresses his belief that the mandate of the Regional Centre remains valid and that the Centre could be a useful instrument for fostering a climate of cooperation in the post-cold-war era,

Noting that trends in the post-cold-war era have emphasized the function of the Regional Centre in assisting Member States as they deal with new security concerns and disarmament issues emerging in the region,

Commending the useful activities carried out by the Regional Centre in encouraging regional and subregional dialogue for the enhancement of openness, transparency and confidence-building, as well as the promotion of disarmament and security through the organization of regional meetings, which has come to be widely known within the Asia-Pacific region as the "Kathmandu process",

Expressing its appreciation to the Regional Centre for its organization of substantive regional meetings at Nagasaki in 1998 and at Kathmandu, Kyoto and Ulaanbaatar in 1999,

Welcoming the idea of the possible creation of an educational and training programme for peace and disarmament in Asia and the Pacific for young people with different backgrounds, to be financed from voluntary contributions,

Noting the important role of the Regional Centre in assisting region-specific initiatives of Member States, including its assistance in the work related to the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia,

Appreciating highly the important role that Nepal has played as the host nation of the headquarters of the Regional Centre,

1. *Reaffirms* its strong support for the continuing operation and further strengthening of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

2. *Underscores* the importance of the Kathmandu process as a powerful vehicle for the development of the practice of region-wide security and disarmament dialogue;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the continuing political support and financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions, the only resources of the Regional Centre, to strengthen the programme of activities of the Regional Centre and the implementation thereof;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking note of paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, to provide the Regional Centre with all necessary support, within existing resources, in carrying out its programme of activities;

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[126] See A/54/424, annex II.

[127] A/54/332 and Add.1.

[128] A/54/255 and Add.1.

6. *Invites* the Secretary-General to initiate consultations with the Government of the Kingdom of Nepal as well as with other Member States concerned and interested organizations to assess the possibility of enabling the Centre to operate effectively from Kathmandu;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific".

D

CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to the survival of mankind,

Bearing in mind the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996 on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*,[129]

Convinced that a multilateral, universal and binding agreement prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would contribute to the elimination of the nuclear threat and to the climate for negotiations leading to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons, thereby strengthening international peace and security,

Conscious that some steps taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America towards a reduction of their nuclear weapons and the improvement in the international climate can contribute towards the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

Recalling that, in paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[130] it is stated that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and that would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming that any use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

Determined to achieve an international convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons, leading to their ultimate destruction,

Stressing that an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons would be an important step in a phased programme towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, with a specified framework of time,

Noting with regret that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 1999 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject as called for in General Assembly resolution 53/78 D of 4 December 1998,

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations, in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly on the results of those negotiations.

E

UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRES FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/78 F of 4 December 1998 regarding the maintenance and revitalization of the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament,

Recalling also the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa,[127] the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific[128] and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,[131] and welcoming the appointment by the Secretary-General of the Director of the Centre for Africa and the Director of the Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Reaffirming its decision, taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, to establish the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, the purpose of which is to inform, educate and generate public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of arms control and disarmament,[132]

Bearing in mind its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989 on the regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,

Recognizing that the changes that have taken place in the world have created new opportunities as well as posed new challenges for the pursuit of disarmament and, in this regard, bearing in mind that the regional centres for peace and disarmament can contribute substantially to understanding and cooperation among the States in each particular region in the areas of peace, disarmament and development,

Noting that in paragraph 146 of the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998, the heads of State or Government welcomed the decision adopted by the General

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[129] A/51/218, annex.

[130] Resolution S-10/2.

[131] A/54/310 and Add.1.

[132] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Plenary Meetings*, 1st meeting, paras. 110 and 111.

Assembly on maintaining and revitalizing the three regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,[133]

1. *Reiterates* the importance of the United Nations activities at the regional level to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament;

2. *Reaffirms* that, in order to achieve positive results, it is useful for the three regional centres to carry out dissemination and educational programmes that promote regional peace and security aimed at changing basic attitudes with respect to peace and security and disarmament so as to support the achievement of the principles and purposes of the United Nations;

3. *Appeals* to Member States in each region and those that are able to do so, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to the regional centres in their respective regions to strengthen their programmes of activities and implementation;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary support, within existing resources, to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament".

F

UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE, DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, with headquarters in Lima,

Recalling also its resolutions 46/37 F of 9 December 1991, 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 52/220 of 22 December 1997 and 53/78 F of 4 December 1998,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[131] in which he expresses his belief that the Regional Centre can make an important contribution to the exchange of information on peace, disarmament and development issues among Governments, non-governmental organizations, industry and various sectors of civil society in the region,

Noting that security and disarmament issues have always been recognized as transcendent topics in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first inhabited region in the world to be declared a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Welcoming the revitalization of the Centre, the efforts made by the Government of Peru to that end and the appointment of the Director of the Centre by the Secretary-General,

Keeping in mind the important role the Centre can play in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, disarmament and development at the regional level,

Expressing its appreciation to the Centre for organizing the international workshop on the theme "Illicit trafficking in small arms: Latin American and Caribbean issues", successfully held in Lima from 23 to 25 June 1999,

Bearing in mind the importance of information, research, education and training for peace, disarmament and development in order to achieve understanding and cooperation among States,

Recognizing the need to provide the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament with sufficient financial resources for the planning and implementation of their programmes of activities,

1. *Reiterates* its strong support of the role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in the promotion of United Nations activities at the regional level to increase peace, stability, security and development among its Member States;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* with the reinitiation of the activities of the Regional Centre, with headquarters in Lima;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the political support and financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

4. *Urges* all the States of the region to make greater use of the potential of the Centre to meet the current challenges facing the international community, with a view to fulfilling the aims of the Charter of the United Nations regarding peace, disarmament and development;

5. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Latin American and Caribbean region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to strengthen the programme of activities of the Regional Centre and the implementation thereof;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Centre with all necessary support, within existing resources, so that it may carry out its programme of activities and attain better results;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session an item entitled "United Nations Regional

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[133] A/53/667–S/1998/1071, annex I; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1998*, document S/1998/1071.

Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

RESOLUTIONS 54/56 A and B

A

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/565) and the oral amendment by Mexico

B

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/565)

54/56. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

A

REPORT OF THE DISARMAMENT COMMISSION

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission,[134]

Recalling its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993, 49/77 A of 15 December 1994, 50/72 D of 12 December 1995, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 52/40 B of 9 December 1997 and 53/79 A of 4 December 1998,

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in the promotion of the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

Bearing in mind its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Disarmament Commission;[134]

2. *Commends* the Disarmament Commission for the successful conclusion of its consideration of the items entitled "The establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned" and "Guidelines on conventional arms control/limitation and disarmament, with particular emphasis on consolidation of peace in the context of General Assembly resolution 51/45 N of 10 December 1996", and endorses the consensus texts adopted thereon;

3. *Notes with regret* that the Disarmament Commission was not able to reach a consensus on the item entitled "The fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament";

4. *Reaffirms* the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;

5. *Also reaffirms* the role of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;

6. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[135] and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items of its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";[136]

7. *Recommends* that the Disarmament Commission, at its 1999 organizational session, adopt the following items for consideration at its 2000 substantive session:

(*a*) To be considered at the organizational session of the Disarmament Commission;[137]

(*b*) To be considered at the organizational session of the Disarmament Commission;[137]

8. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2000 and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament,[138] together with all the official records of the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services, including verbatim records, to that end;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

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[134] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42).

[135] Resolution S-10/2.

[136] A/CN.10/137.

[137] In accordance with General Assembly decision 52/492.

[138] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/54/27).

B

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,[138]

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Recognizing, in this respect, the need for additional impetus to multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching concrete agreements,

Noting that the Conference on Disarmament has a number of urgent and important issues to negotiate,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to fulfil that role in the light of the evolving international situation, with a view to making early substantive progress on priority items of its agenda;

3. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference on Disarmament on 5 August 1999 to admit five new members,[139] and notes that the Conference recognizes the importance of continuing consultations on the question of the expansion of its membership;

4. *Also welcomes* the strong collective interest of the Conference on Disarmament in commencing substantive work as soon as possible during its 2000 session;

5. *Further welcomes* the undertaking by the current President of the Conference on Disarmament to conduct consultations jointly with the incoming President during the inter-sessional period to try to achieve this goal, as expressed in his statement contained in paragraph 38 of the report of the Conference;[138]

6. *Encourages* the Conference on Disarmament to continue the ongoing review of its agenda and methods of work;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure the provision to the Conference on Disarmament of adequate administrative, substantive and conference support services;

8. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

RESOLUTION 54/57

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 149 to 3, with 9 abstentions,[140] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/566)

54/57. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the latest of which is resolution GC(43)/RES/23 adopted on 1 October 1999,

Cognizant that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region of the Middle East would pose a serious threat to international peace and security,

Mindful of the immediate need to place all nuclear facilities in the region of the Middle East under full-scope safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency,

Recalling the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995,[141] in which the Conference noted with concern the continued existence in the Middle East of unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, reaffirmed the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty[142] and called upon all States in the Middle East that had not yet done so, without exception, to accede to the Treaty as soon as possible and to place all their nuclear facilities under full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

Recalling also the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995,[141] in which the Conference urged universal adherence to the Treaty as an urgent priority and called upon all States not yet parties to the Treaty to accede to it at the earliest date, particularly those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities,

Noting that, since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 51/48 of 10 December 1996, Israel remains the only State in the Middle East that has not yet become party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Concerned about the threats posed by the proliferation of nuclear weapons to the security and stability of the Middle East region,

Stressing the importance of taking confidence-building measures, in particular the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, in order to enhance peace and security in the region and to consolidate the global non-proliferation regime,

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[139] Ibid., para. 16.

[140] For details, see annex II.

[141] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)), annex.

[142] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

Noting the adoption of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[143] and its signature by one hundred and fifty-five States, including a number of States in the region,

1. *Calls upon* the only State in the region that is not party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[142] to accede to the Treaty without further delay and not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons, and to renounce possession of nuclear weapons, and to place all its unsafeguarded nuclear facilities under full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards as an important confidence-building measure among all States of the region and as a step towards enhancing peace and security;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East".

RESOLUTION 54/58

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/567)

54/58. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/81 of 4 December 1998 and previous resolutions referring to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[144]

Recalling with satisfaction the adoption, on 10 October 1980, of the Convention, together with the Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I),[144] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II)[144] and the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III),[144] which entered into force on 2 December 1983,

Also recalling with satisfaction the adoption by the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, on 13 October 1995 of the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV),[145] and on 3 May 1996 of the amended Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II),[146]

Recalling that the States parties at the Review Conference declared their commitment to keeping the provisions of Protocol II under review in order to ensure that the concerns regarding the weapons it covers are addressed, and that they would encourage efforts of the United Nations and other organizations to address all problems of landmines,

Recalling also the role played by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the elaboration of the Convention and the Protocols thereto,

Welcoming the additional ratifications and acceptances of or accessions to the Convention, as well as the ratifications and acceptances of or accessions to amended Protocol II and Protocol IV,

Noting that, in conformity with article 8 of the Convention, conferences may be convened to examine amendments to the Convention or to any of the Protocols thereto, to examine additional protocols concerning other categories of conventional weapons not covered by existing Protocols or to review the scope and application of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and to examine any proposed amendments or additional protocols,

Welcoming the decision adopted by the Review Conference in its Final Declaration[147] on 3 May 1996 to convene a Review Conference no later than 2001,

Noting that, in accordance with article 13 of amended Protocol II, a conference of States parties to that Protocol shall be held annually for the purpose of consultations and cooperation on all issues relating to the Protocol,

Noting also that the provisional rules of procedure of the First Annual Conference of the States Parties to Amended Protocol II provide for the invitation of States not parties to the Protocol, the International Committee of the Red Cross and interested non-governmental organizations to take part in the Conference,

I

1. *Expresses its satisfaction* that the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV)[145] entered into force on 30 July 1998, commends it to all States with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to this instrument at an early date and calls, in particular, upon all States parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[144] that have not yet done so to express their consent to be bound by the Protocol;

2. *Welcomes* the entry into force on 3 December 1998 of the amended Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II),[146]

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[143] See resolution 50/245.

[144] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 5: 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IX.4), appendix VII.

[145] CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I), annex A.

[146] Ibid., annex B.

[147] Ibid., annex C.

and calls, in particular, upon all States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to express their consent to be bound by the Protocol;

3. *Notes* the convening, from 15 to 17 December 1999, of the First Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II, in accordance with article 13 thereof, and welcomes in this context the successful Preparatory Meeting held by the States parties on 25 and 26 May 1999;

II

1. *Calls upon* all States parties that have not yet done so to notify the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[144] and the Protocols thereto, of their consent to be bound by the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV),[145] and by the amended Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II);[146]

2. *Welcomes* the convening, from 15 to 17 December 1999, of the First Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II, in accordance with article 13 thereof;

3. *Calls upon* all States parties to amended Protocol II to address at the Conference, *inter alia*, the issue of holding the second annual conference in 2000;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services as may be required for the second annual conference of States parties to amended Protocol II and the preparatory committee for the conference;

III

1. *Recalls* the decision of States parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[144] to convene the next review conference no later than 2001, preceded by the preparatory committee;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services, including summary records, as may be required for the second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention and the preparatory committee for the Review Conference;

3. *Urgently calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to become parties, as soon as possible, to the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and in particular to the amended Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II),[146] with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to this instrument at an early date, and calls upon successor States to take appropriate measures so that ultimately adherence to these instruments will be universal;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, to continue to inform the General Assembly periodically of ratifications and acceptances of and accession to the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

RESOLUTION 54/59

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/568)

54/59. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 53/82 of 4 December 1998,

Reaffirming the primary role of the Mediterranean countries in strengthening and promoting peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region,

Bearing in mind all the previous declarations and commitments, as well as all the initiatives taken by the riparian countries at the recent summits, ministerial meetings and various forums concerning the question of the Mediterranean region,

Recognizing the indivisible character of security in the Mediterranean and that the enhancement of cooperation among Mediterranean countries with a view to promoting the economic and social development of all peoples of the region will contribute significantly to stability, peace and security in the region,

Recognizing also the efforts made so far and the determination of the Mediterranean countries to intensify the process of dialogue and consultations with a view to resolving the problems existing in the Mediterranean region and to eliminating the causes of tension and the consequent threat to peace and security, and their growing awareness of the need for further joint efforts to strengthen economic, social, cultural and environmental cooperation in the region,

Recognizing further that prospects for closer Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in all spheres can be enhanced by positive developments worldwide, in particular in Europe, in the Maghreb and in the Middle East,

Reaffirming the responsibility of all States to contribute to the stability and prosperity of the Mediterranean region and their commitment to respect the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[148]

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

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[148] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

Expressing its concern at the persistent tension and continuing military activities in parts of the Mediterranean that hinder efforts to strengthen security and cooperation in the region,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[149]

1. *Reaffirms* that security in the Mediterranean is closely linked to European security as well as to international peace and security;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the continuing efforts by Mediterranean countries to contribute actively to the elimination of all causes of tension in the region and to the promotion of just and lasting solutions to the persistent problems of the region through peaceful means, thus ensuring the withdrawal of foreign forces of occupation and respecting the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all countries of the Mediterranean and the right of peoples to self-determination, and therefore calls for full adherence to the principles of non-interference, non-intervention, non-use of force or threat of use of force and the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Commends* the Mediterranean countries for their efforts in meeting common challenges through coordinated overall responses, based on a spirit of multilateral partnership, towards the general objective of turning the Mediterranean basin into an area of dialogue, exchanges and cooperation, guaranteeing peace, stability and prosperity, and encourages them to strengthen such efforts through, *inter alia*, a lasting multilateral and action-oriented cooperative dialogue among States of the region;

4. *Recognizes* that the elimination of the economic and social disparities in levels of development and other obstacles, as well as respect and greater understanding among cultures, in the Mediterranean area will contribute to enhancing peace, security and cooperation among Mediterranean countries through the existing forums;

5. *Calls upon* all States of the Mediterranean region that have not yet done so to adhere to all the multilaterally negotiated legal instruments related to the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, thus creating the necessary conditions for strengthening peace and cooperation in the region;

6. *Encourages* all States of the region to favour the necessary conditions for strengthening the confidence-building measures among them by promoting genuine openness and transparency on all military matters, by participating, *inter alia*, in the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures and by providing accurate data and information to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms;[150]

7. *Encourages* the Mediterranean countries to strengthen further their cooperation in combating terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, which poses a serious threat to peace, security and stability in the region and therefore to the improvement of the current political, economic and social situation;

8. *Invites* all States of the region to address, through various forms of cooperation, problems and threats posed to the region, such as terrorism, international crime and illicit arms transfers, as well as illicit drug production, consumption and trafficking, which jeopardize the friendly relations among States, hinder the development of international cooperation and result in the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the democratic basis of pluralistic society;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on means to strengthen security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region".

RESOLUTION 54/60

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/569)

54/60. Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in its resolution 1911 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963 it expressed the hope that the States of Latin America would take appropriate measures to conclude a treaty that would prohibit nuclear weapons in Latin America,

Recalling also that in the same resolution it voiced its confidence that, once such a treaty was concluded, all States, and in particular the nuclear-weapon States, would lend it their full cooperation for the effective realization of its peaceful aims,

Considering that in its resolution 2028 (XX) of 19 November 1965 it established the principle of an acceptable balance of mutual responsibilities and obligations between nuclear-weapon States and those which do not possess such weapons,

Recalling that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)[151] was opened for signature at Mexico City on 14 February 1967,

Noting with satisfaction the holding on 14 February 1997 of the eleventh special session of the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco,

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[149] A/54/261.

[150] See resolution 46/36 L.

[151] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

Recalling that in its preamble the Treaty of Tlatelolco states that military denuclearized zones are not an end in themselves but rather a means for achieving general and complete disarmament at a later stage,

Recalling also that in its resolution 2286 (XXII) of 5 December 1967 it welcomed with special satisfaction the Treaty of Tlatelolco as an event of historic significance in the efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to promote international peace and security,

Recalling further that in 1990, 1991 and 1992 the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean approved and opened for signature a set of amendments[152] to the Treaty of Tlatelolco,[151] with the aim of enabling the full entry into force of that instrument,

Recalling resolution C/E/RES.27 of the Council of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean,[153] in which the Council called for the promotion of cooperation and consultations with other nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Noting with satisfaction that the Treaty of Tlatelolco is now in force for thirty-two sovereign States of the region,

Also noting with satisfaction that on 18 January 1999 Colombia and on 20 January 1999 Costa Rica deposited their instruments of ratification of the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco approved by the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in its resolutions 267 (E–V) of 3 July 1990, 268 (XII) of 10 May 1991 and 290 (E–VII) of 26 August 1992,

Further noting with satisfaction that the amended Treaty of Tlatelolco is fully in force for Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela,

1. *Welcomes* the concrete steps taken by some countries of the region during the past year for the consolidation of the regime of military denuclearization established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco);[151]

2. *Urges* the countries of the region that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification of the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco approved by the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in its resolutions 267 (E–V), 268 (XII) and 290 (E–VII);

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)".

RESOLUTION 54/61

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/570)

54/61. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions relating to the complete and effective prohibition of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and to their destruction,

Noting with satisfaction that there are one hundred and forty-three States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[154] including all the permanent members of the Security Council,

Bearing in mind its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the implementation of the recommendations of the Review Conferences, including the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[155] and to provide such information and data in conformity with standardized procedure to the Secretary-General on an annual basis and no later than 15 April,

Recalling its resolution 49/86, adopted without a vote on 15 December 1994, in which it welcomed the final report of the Special Conference of the States Parties to the Convention,[156] adopted by consensus on 30 September 1994, in which the States parties agreed to establish an ad hoc group, open to the participation of all States parties, whose objective should be to consider appropriate measures, including possible verification measures, and draft proposals to strengthen the Convention, to be included, as appropriate, in a legally binding instrument to be submitted for the consideration of the States parties,

Recalling also the provisions of the Convention related to scientific and technological cooperation and the related provisions of the final report of the Ad Hoc Group of Governmental Experts to Identify and Examine Potential Verification Measures from a Scientific and Technical Standpoint,[157] the final report of the Special Conference of the States Parties to the Convention,[156] and the final documents of the Review Conferences,

Recalling further the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to

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[152] A/47/467, annex.

[153] See CD/1392.

[154] Resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.

[155] BWC/CONF.III/23, part II.

[156] BWC/SPCONF/1.

[157] BWC/CONF.III/VEREX/9 and Corr.1.

3 September 1998,[158] in which the heads of State or Government noted the progress achieved so far in the negotiation of a protocol, stressed the importance of achieving further substantive progress for the conclusion of a universally acceptable and legally binding instrument designed to strengthen the Convention and reaffirmed the decision of the Fourth Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention urging the conclusion of the negotiations by the Ad Hoc Group as soon as possible before the commencement of the Fifth Review Conference,

Welcoming the reaffirmation made in the Final Declaration of the Fourth Review Conference[159] that under all circumstances the use of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and their development, production and stockpiling are effectively prohibited under article I of the Convention,

Recalling the declaration of the informal ministerial meeting, held in New York on 23 September 1998, in which the participants and the co-sponsors affirmed their strong support for the Convention and for strengthening its effectiveness and improving its implementation,

Bearing in mind the forthcoming seventy-fifth anniversary of the signature of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925,[160] and the twenty-fifth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction on 26 March 1975,

1. *Welcomes* the progress achieved so far in the negotiation of a protocol to strengthen the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[154] and reaffirms the decision of the Fourth Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention urging the conclusion of the negotiations by the Ad Hoc Group of Governmental Experts to Identify and Examine Potential Verification Measures from a Scientific and Technical Standpoint as soon as possible before the commencement of the Fifth Review Conference and urging it to submit its report, which shall be adopted by consensus, to the States parties to be considered at a special conference;[161]

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the increase in the number of States parties to the Convention, and reaffirms the call upon all signatory States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so without delay, and also calls upon those States that have not signed the Convention to become parties thereto at an early date, thus contributing to the achievement of universal adherence to the Convention, duly noting the forthcoming anniversary of the twenty-fifth year of the entry into force of the Convention;

3. *Calls upon* all States parties, in this context, to accelerate the negotiations and to redouble their efforts within the Ad Hoc Group to formulate an efficient, cost-effective and practical regime and to seek an early resolution of the outstanding issues through renewed flexibility in order to complete the protocol on the basis of consensus at the earliest possible date;

4. *Welcomes* the information and data provided to date, and reiterates its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference;[155]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render the necessary assistance to the depositary Governments of the Convention and to provide such services as may be required for the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Review Conferences, as well as the decisions contained in the final report of the Special Conference,[156] including all necessary assistance to the Ad Hoc Group and the special conference that is to consider the report of the Ad Hoc Group, in accordance with its mandate, as confirmed by the Fourth Review Conference;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction".

RESOLUTION 54/62

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 155 to none, with 2 abstentions,[162] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/571)

54/62. Maintenance of international security – stability and development of South-Eastern Europe

The General Assembly,

Recalling the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, signed at Helsinki on 1 August 1975,

Affirming its determination that all nations should live together in peace with one another as good neighbours,

Recalling its resolutions 48/84 B of 16 December 1993, 50/80 B of 12 December 1995, 51/55 of 10 December 1996, 52/48 of 9 December 1997 and 53/71 of 4 December 1998,

Mindful of the importance of national and international activities and activities by all relevant organizations aimed at the creation of peace, security, stability, democracy, cooperation, economic development, observance of human rights and good-neighbourliness of the South-Eastern European region,

Being aware of the crucial importance of the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999 on Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and stressing, *inter alia*, the role and responsibilities of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, the Kosovo Force, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the European Union in that regard,

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[158] A/53/667–S/1998/1071, annex I; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1998*, document S/1998/1071.

[159] BWC/CONF.IV/9, part II.

[160] League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. XCIV (1929), No. 2138.

[161] See BWC/CONF.IV/9.

[162] For details, see annex II.

Noting the direct negative repercussions of the Kosovo crisis on the economy of the region and, in particular, on the Republic of Albania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia as a consequence of the hosting of such a large number of refugees by them,

Welcoming the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe initiated by the European Union, adopted in Cologne, Germany, on 10 June 1999, and endorsed at the Sarajevo Summit of 30 July 1999, and stressing the crucial importance of its adequate and timely implementation,

Taking note of the Sarajevo Summit Declaration, in which the participants affirm their collective and individual readiness to give concrete meaning to the Pact by promoting political and economic reforms, development and enhanced security in the region and also their commitment to make every effort to assist countries in the region in making speedy and measurable progress along this road,

Noting, inter alia, the importance of the Process of Stability and Good-Neighbourliness in South-East Europe (Royaumont Initiative), the South-East European Cooperative Initiative, the South-East European Cooperation Process, the Central European Initiative and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation for the implementation of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe,

1. *Affirms* the urgency of consolidating South-Eastern Europe as a region of peace, security, stability, democracy, cooperation, economic development, observance of human rights and good-neighbourliness, thus contributing to the maintenance of international peace and security and enhancing the prospects for sustained development and prosperity for all peoples in the region as an integral part of Europe;

2. *Calls upon* all participants in the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, and all concerned international organizations, to support the efforts of South-Eastern European States to overcome the negative effects of the Kosovo crisis and to enable them to pursue sustainable development and integration of their economies into the European and global economy;

3. *Affirms* the need for full observance of the Charter of the United Nations and for strict compliance with the principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity and inviolability of international borders of any State;

4. *Urges* the normalization of relations among the States of South-Eastern Europe and the strengthening of their mutual cooperation on the basis of respect of international law and agreements and within the principle of good-neighbourliness and mutual respect;

5. *Stresses* the importance of good-neighbourliness and the development of friendly relations among States, the solution of problems among States and the promotion of international cooperation in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

6. *Calls upon* all States to solve their disputes with other States by peaceful means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

7. *Calls upon* all States, the relevant international organizations and competent organs of the United Nations to continue to take measures in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, as appropriate, to eliminate threats to international peace and security and to help to prevent conflicts which can lead to the violent disintegration of States;

8. *Stresses* the importance of regional efforts aimed at preventing bilateral conflicts endangering the maintenance of international peace and security, and notes with satisfaction, in this regard, the establishment of the Multinational Peace Force for South-Eastern Europe, the headquarters of which, located at Plovdiv, Bulgaria, has become operational;

9. *Emphasizes* the importance of regional efforts in South-Eastern Europe on arms control, disarmament and confidence-building measures;

10. *Stresses* that closer engagement of the South-Eastern European States in furthering cooperation on the European continent will favourably influence the security, political and economic situation in the region, as well as the good-neighbourly relations among the Balkan States;

11. *Calls upon* all States and the relevant international organizations to communicate to the Secretary-General their views on the subject of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session an item entitled "Maintenance of international security — stability and development of South-Eastern Europe".

RESOLUTION 54/63

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 1 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 158 to none, with 6 abstentions,[163] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/572)

54/63. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty was adopted by its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996 and opened for signature on 24 September 1996,

Noting that the first Meeting of the States Signatories adopted resolution CTBT/MSS/RES/1 on 19 November 1996, thereby establishing the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization,

Noting also that by decision 53/422 of 4 December 1998, it decided to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session the item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty",

Encouraged by the signing of the Treaty by one hundred and fifty-five States, including forty-one of the forty-four needed for its entry into force, and welcoming also the ratification of fifty-one States, including twenty-six of the forty-four needed for its entry into force,

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[163] For details, see annex II.

Welcoming the convening of the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty at Vienna from 6 to 8 October 1999 to promote the entry into force of the Treaty at the earliest possible date,

1. *Endorses* the Final Declaration of the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[164] and, in particular:

(*a*) Calls upon all States that have not yet signed the Treaty to sign and ratify it as soon as possible and to refrain from acts that would defeat its object and purpose in the meanwhile;

(*b*) Calls upon all States that have signed but not yet ratified the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to accelerate their ratification processes with a view to their early successful conclusion;

2. *Urges* all States to sustain the momentum generated by the Conference by continuing to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level;

3. *Welcomes* the contributions by States signatories to the work of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, in particular to its efforts to ensure that the Treaty's verification regime will be capable of meeting the verification requirements of the Treaty at entry into force, in accordance with article IV of the Treaty;

4. *Urges* States to maintain their moratoria on nuclear weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty".

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[164] A/54/514–S/1999/1102, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1999*, document S/1999/1102.

III. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE (FOURTH COMMITTEE)

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RESOLUTION 54/66

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/573)

54/66. Effects of atomic radiation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 913 (X) of 3 December 1955, by which it established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and its subsequent resolutions on the subject, including resolution 53/44 of 3 December 1998, in which, *inter alia*, it requested the Scientific Committee to continue its work,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation,[1]

Reaffirming the desirability of the Scientific Committee continuing its work,

Concerned about the potentially harmful effects on present and future generations resulting from the levels of radiation to which mankind and the environment are exposed,

Noting the views expressed by Member States at its fifty-fourth session with regard to the work of the Scientific Committee,

Conscious of the continuing need to examine and compile information about atomic and ionizing radiation and to analyse its effects on mankind and the environment,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation for the valuable contribution it has been making in the course of the past forty-four years, since its inception, to wider knowledge and understanding of the levels, effects and risks of atomic radiation, and for fulfilling its original mandate with scientific authority and independence of judgement;

2. *Reaffirms* the decision to maintain the present functions and independent role of the Scientific Committee, including the present reporting arrangements;

3. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue its work, including its important activities to increase knowledge of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation from all sources;

4. *Endorses* the intentions and plans of the Scientific Committee for its future activities of scientific review and assessment on behalf of the General Assembly, including publication of its next comprehensive report in 2000;

5. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue at its next session the review of the important problems in the field of radiation and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue providing support for the effective conduct of the work of the Scientific Committee and for the dissemination of its findings to the General Assembly, the scientific community and the public;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* for the assistance rendered to the Scientific Committee by Member States, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and non-governmental organizations, and invites them to increase their cooperation in this field;

8. *Welcomes*, in this context, the readiness of Member States to provide the Scientific Committee with relevant information on the effects of atomic radiation in affected areas, and invites the Scientific Committee to analyse and give due consideration to such information, particularly in the light of its own findings;

9. *Invites* Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations concerned to provide further relevant data about doses, effects and risks from various sources of radiation, which would greatly help in the preparation of future reports of the Scientific Committee to the General Assembly.

RESOLUTION 54/67

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/574)

54/67. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/122 of 13 December 1996 and 53/45 of 3 December 1998,

Deeply convinced of the common interest of mankind in promoting the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes and in continuing efforts to extend to all States the benefits derived therefrom, and also of the importance of international cooperation in this field, for which the United Nations should continue to provide a focal point,

Reaffirming the importance of international cooperation in developing the rule of law, including the relevant norms of space law and their important role in international cooperation for the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, and of the widest possible adherence to international treaties that promote the peaceful uses of outer space,

Concerned about the possibility of an arms race in outer space,

Recognizing that all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, should contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Considering that space debris is an issue of concern to all nations,

Noting the progress achieved in the further development of peaceful space exploration and applications as well as in various national and cooperative space projects, which contributes to international cooperation, and the importance of further international cooperation in this field,

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 46* (A/54/46).

Taking note with satisfaction of the successful conclusion of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III), held at Vienna from 19 to 30 July 1999 as a special session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space open to all States Members of the United Nations,[2]

Taking into account the recommendations contained in the resolution entitled "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development", adopted by UNISPACE III,[3]

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its forty-second session,[4]

1. *Endorses* the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its forty-second session;[4]

2. *Invites* States that have not yet become parties to the international treaties governing the uses of outer space[5] to give consideration to ratifying those treaties or acceding to them;

3. *Notes* that, at its thirty-eighth session, the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, in its working groups, continued its work as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 53/45;[6]

4. *Welcomes* the new approach taken by the Committee in composing the agenda of the Legal Subcommittee,[7] and endorses the recommendation of the Committee that the Subcommittee, at its thirty-ninth session, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries:

(*a*) Consider the following as regular agenda items:

(i) General exchange of views;

(ii) Status of the international treaties governing the uses of outer space;

(iii) Information on the activities of international organizations relating to space law;

(iv) Matters relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space and to the character and utilization of the geostationary orbit, including consideration of ways and means to ensure the rational and equitable use of the geostationary orbit without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union;

(*b*) Continue its consideration of review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space,[8] as a single issue and item for discussion;

(*c*) Consider the following in accordance with the work plans adopted by the Committee:[9]

(i) Review of the status of the five international legal instruments governing outer space;

(ii) Review of the concept of the "launching State";

5. *Notes* that the Legal Subcommittee, at its thirty-ninth session, will submit its proposals to the Committee for new items to be considered by the Subcommittee at its fortieth session, in 2001;

6. *Notes also* that, in the context of paragraph 4 (*a*) (iv) above, the Legal Subcommittee will reconvene its Working Group to consider the item;

7. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee[10] that the Legal Subcommittee, at its thirty-ninth session, suspend consideration in its Working Group of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space pending the results of the work in the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, without prejudice to the possibility of reconvening its Working Group on that item if, in the opinion of the Legal Subcommittee, sufficient progress has been made in the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-seventh session, to warrant the reconvening of the Working Group;

8. *Also endorses* the recommendations and agreements concerning the organization of work in the Legal Subcommittee;[11]

9. *Takes note* of the agreement reached by the Committee at its fortieth session on the composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies for the second term starting in 2000, in the context of the

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[2] See A/CONF.184/6.

[3] Ibid., chap. I, resolution 1.

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/54/20 and Corr.1).

[5] Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (resolution 2222 (XXI), annex); Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space (resolution 2345 (XXII), annex); Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (resolution 2777 (XXVI), annex); Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (resolution 3235 (XXIX), annex); and Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (resolution 34/68, annex).

[6] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/54/20 and Corr.1), chap. II.C.

[7] Ibid., annex I, sect. B.

[8] See resolution 47/68.

[9] See A/AC.105/674, annex II.B, for the work plan for item (i) and *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/54/20 and Corr.1), chap. II.C., para. 114, for the work plan for item (ii).

[10] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/54/20 and Corr.1), para. 90.

[11] Ibid., paras. 109-117.

implementation of the measures relating to the working methods of those bodies,[12] which were endorsed by the General Assembly in paragraph 11 of its resolution 52/56 of 10 December 1997, and notes that consultations among delegations and regional groups will be held concerning the members of the bureaux for the second term with a view to reaching consensus on the matter by the thirty-seventh session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee;

10. *Agrees* that the Committee should elect its officers at the beginning of its forty-third session, in accordance with consensus agreement to be reached among the members of the Committee on the members of the bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies for the second term, as an exceptional arrangement for that session of the Committee;

11. *Notes* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, at its thirty-sixth session, continued its work as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 53/45;[13]

12. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-sixth session continued to consider on a priority basis the agenda item on space debris and that the Subcommittee concluded its work according to the multi-year work plan adopted by the Subcommittee at its thirty-second session;[14]

13. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the technical report on space debris[15] submitted by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee to the Committee, and agrees that the technical report should be widely distributed;

14. *Agrees* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee should assess the effectiveness of existing space debris mitigation practices and the extent to which they are being implemented and that efforts to model and characterize the debris environment should continue;

15. *Welcomes* the new approach taken by the Committee in composing the agenda of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee,[16] and endorses the recommendation of the Committee that the Subcommittee, at its thirty-seventh session, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries:

(*a*) Consider the following items:

(i) General exchange of views and introduction to reports submitted on national activities;

(ii) The United Nations Programme on Space Applications and the coordination of space activities within the United Nations system following the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III);

(iii) Matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellites, including applications for developing countries and monitoring of the Earth's environment;

(*b*) Consider the item on the use of nuclear power sources in outer space in accordance with the work plan adopted by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-fifth session;[17]

(*c*) Consider the following single issues and items for discussion:

(i) International cooperation in human spaceflight;

(ii) Presentations on new launch systems and ventures;

(iii) Space debris, on a priority basis;

(iv) Examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and of its utilization and applications, including, *inter alia*, in the field of space communications, as well as other questions relating to developments in space communications, taking particular account of the needs and interests of developing countries;

16. *Notes* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its thirty-seventh session, will submit its proposal to the Committee for a draft provisional agenda for the thirty-eighth session of the Subcommittee, in 2001;

17. *Also notes* that the theme fixed for special attention at the thirty-seventh session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee will be "Space commercialization: an era of new opportunities" and that the Committee on Space Research and the International Astronautical Federation, in liaison with Member States, will be invited to arrange a symposium on that theme, with as wide a participation as possible, to be held during the first week of that session of the Subcommittee;

18. *Agrees* that, in the context of paragraphs 15 (*a*) (ii) and 16 above, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-seventh session should reconvene the Working Group of the Whole to consider the future work of the Subcommittee in the light of the recommendations of UNISPACE III;

19. *Also agrees* that, in the context of paragraph 15 (*b*) above, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-seventh session should reconvene its Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space;

20. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee[18] that, in the context of paragraph 15 (*c*) (iii) above, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-seventh session review international application of the standards of the International Telecommunication Union and recommendations

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[12] Ibid., *Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/52/20), annex I.

[13] Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/54/20 and Corr.1), chap. II.B.

[14] A/AC.105/605, para. 83.

[15] A/AC.105/720.

[16] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/54/20 and Corr.1), annex I, sect. A.

[17] See A/AC.105/697 and Corr.1, annex III, appendix.

of the Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee concerning the disposal of satellites in geosynchronous orbit at the end of their useful life;

21. *Also endorses* the United Nations Programme on Space Applications for 2000, as proposed to the Committee by the Expert on Space Applications;[18]

22. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in accordance with paragraph 30 of General Assembly resolution 50/27 of 6 December 1995, the African regional centres for space science and technology education, in the French language and in the English language, were inaugurated in Morocco and Nigeria, respectively, that the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific continued its education programme in 1999 and that significant progress has been achieved in furthering the goals of the Network of Space Science and Technology Education and Research Institutions for Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe and establishing regional centres for space science and technology education in the other regions;

23. *Recommends* that Member States concerned in Asia and the Pacific hold further consultations, with the assistance of the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat, with a view to making the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific grow into a network of nodes;

24. *Also recommends* that more attention be paid to all aspects related to the protection and the preservation of the outer space environment, especially those potentially affecting the Earth's environment;

25. *Considers* that it is essential that Member States pay more attention to the problem of collisions of space objects, including those with nuclear power sources, with space debris, and other aspects of space debris, calls for the continuation of national research on this question, for the development of improved technology for the monitoring of space debris and for the compilation and dissemination of data on space debris, also considers that, to the extent possible, information thereon should be provided to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, and agrees that international cooperation is needed to expand appropriate and affordable strategies to minimize the impact of space debris on future space missions;

26. *Urges* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes;

27. *Emphasizes* the need to increase the benefits of space technology and its applications and to contribute to an orderly growth of space activities favourable to sustained economic growth and sustainable development in all countries, in particular in the developing countries, and mitigation of the consequences of natural disasters;

28. *Takes note* of the interest of some developing countries, as well as other countries, in becoming members of the Committee, and requests the continued examination of the subject of increasing the number of members of the Committee;

29. *Requests* the Committee to resume its consideration, at its forty-third session, as a matter of priority, of ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

30. *Also requests* the Committee to resume its consideration, at its forty-third session, of the item entitled "Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status";

31. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other international organizations to continue and, where appropriate, enhance their cooperation with the Committee and to provide it with progress reports on their work relating to the peaceful uses of outer space;

32. *Requests* the Committee to continue its work, in accordance with the present resolution, to consider, as appropriate, new projects in outer space activities and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, including its views on which subjects should be studied in the future.

RESOLUTION 54/68

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/574)

54/68. Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/123 of 13 December 1996, 52/56 of 10 December 1997 and 53/45 of 3 December 1998 concerning the preparations for and convening of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III), held at Vienna from 19 to 30 July 1999,

Reaffirming the importance of international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space,

Expressing its satisfaction with the successful preparation of UNISPACE III through the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, as the Preparatory Committee, and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, as the Advisory Committee, as well as the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat as the executive secretariat, and commending their efforts to organize UNISPACE III within existing resources,

Recognizing the contributions of the Technical Forum and the Space Generation Forum to UNISPACE III,

Having considered the report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer

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[18] See A/AC.105/715, sect. II.

Space[19] and the recommendations contained in the resolution entitled "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development",[20]

Stressing the importance of promoting effective means of using space technology to assist in the solution of problems of regional or global significance and of strengthening the capabilities of Member States, in particular developing countries, to use the applications of space research for economic, social and cultural development,

Conscious of the need to expedite the use of space applications by Member States to promote sustainable development and to increase the awareness of the general public with regard to the benefits of space technology,

Desiring to enhance the opportunities for education, training and technical assistance in space science and technology and their applications aimed at the development of indigenous capabilities in all States,

Expressing its profound gratitude to the Government and people of Austria for the hospitality extended to the participants of UNISPACE III and for the facilities placed at their disposal,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;[19]

2. *Endorses* the resolution entitled "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development";[20]

3. *Urges* Governments, organs, organizations and programmes within the United Nations system as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and industries conducting space-related activities to take the necessary action for the effective implementation of the Vienna Declaration;

4. *Calls upon* all concerned to implement the recommendations made by UNISPACE III as reflected in its report;[19]

5. *Requests* all relevant organizations of the United Nations system to review and, where necessary, adjust their programmes and activities in line with the recommendations of UNISPACE III and to take appropriate measures to ensure their full and effective implementation, taking into account the needs of developing countries, in particular by further enhancing the coordination of their space-related activities through the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities;

6. *Invites* all relevant governing bodies of the organizations within the United Nations system responsible for space-related activities to establish an ad hoc intergovernmental advisory group to review inter-agency coordination of space-related activities with a view to increasing the effectiveness of the work of the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities;

7. *Declares* 4 to 10 October World Space Week to celebrate each year at the international level the contributions of space science and technology to the betterment of the human condition, bearing in mind that 4 October 1957 was the date of the launch into outer space of the first human-made Earth satellite, Sputnik 1, thus opening the way for space exploration, and that 10 October 1967 was the date of the entry into force of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies;[21]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to modify the terms of reference of the Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 37/90 of 10 December 1982 on the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, to include implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to invite all States to contribute voluntarily to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications and, in his letter of invitation, to identify priority project proposals, on the basis of recommendations of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, and requests the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat to provide the Committee with a report listing those States which have responded to the invitation;

10. *Agrees* that the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its secretariat should identify new and innovative funding sources for implementing the recommendations of UNISPACE III in order to supplement the resources to be provided through the Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to recommend measures to ensure that the Office for Outer Space Affairs is provided with adequate resources to implement the following actions based on the recommendations of UNISPACE III:

(*a*) Providing the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space with necessary analytical documents, both on the substance and on the organization of work, to facilitate their consideration of new items called for in the agenda structures adopted by the Committee at its forty-second session;[22]

(*b*) Organizing, in order to strengthen the partnership of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee with industry, a one-day symposium during the thirty-seventh session of the Subcommittee to provide Member States with updated information on commercially available products, services and ongoing activities of the space-related industry;

(*c*) Identifying and promoting the use of appropriate space technologies to meet the needs of programmes and organizations within the United Nations system in carrying out activities that have not yet benefited from the use of space technology to enhance their effectiveness and efficiency;

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[19] A/CONF.184/6.

[20] Ibid., chap. I, resolution 1.

[21] Resolution 2222 (XXI), annex.

[22] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/54/20 and Corr.1), annex I.

(*d*) Strengthening the activities of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications to include the following:

(i) Facilitating and supporting the development and implementation of space-related projects that address the operational needs of Member States;

(ii) Providing support to the regional centres for space science and technology education affiliated with the United Nations, including the Network of Space Science and Technology Education and Research Institutions for Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe;

(iii) Reorienting the long-term fellowship programme;

(iv) Organizing workshops and conferences on advanced space applications and new system developments for programme managers and leaders of space technology development and applications activities;

(v) Organizing medium-term courses on remote-sensing education for university educators and on telecommunications and tele-health for professionals;

(vi) Providing technical advisory services to Member States, on request, on different aspects of space science and technology and related applications;

(vii) Promoting cooperation in space applications projects between government establishments, universities and research institutions and private industry;

(viii) Organizing an annual public forum to inform the general public of past, ongoing and planned space activities and the future direction of such activities;

(ix) Promoting activities for youth, so as to encourage interest among students and young scientists and engineers;

(x) Promoting cooperation in the development of educational programmes in space science and technology for primary and secondary school curricula;

(xi) Establishing a programme of visits by astronauts, cosmonauts and other space scientists and engineers to increase knowledge about space-related activities, in particular among young people;

(xii) Promoting the participation of scientists from developing countries in space science and planetary exploration;

(xiii) Initiating programmes to promote the use of satellite communications and Earth observation data for disaster management and to provide opportunities for professionals to put into practice the knowledge that they have acquired through training courses;

12. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to ensure the availability of the report of UNISPACE III,[19] including its proceedings, and to disseminate as widely as possible the results of UNISPACE III, in particular the Vienna Declaration and the summary of the background and recommendations of UNISPACE III;

13. *Notes* that, in response to a request made by the Preparatory Committee for UNISPACE III at its 1999 session, the executive secretariat has prepared for submission to the General Assembly a document on organizational matters relating to UNISPACE III, with the aim of providing other entities in the United Nations system with guidelines on using existing resources to organize a conference on global issues;

14. *Agrees* that the document prepared by the executive secretariat on organizational matters relating to UNISPACE III should be issued as a report to the General Assembly during its fifty-fourth session;[23]

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III;

16. *Decides* to review and appraise, at its fifty-ninth session, the implementation of the outcome of UNISPACE III and to consider further actions and initiatives, and, in this context, requests the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to submit for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session recommendations on the format, scope and organizational aspects of the review.

RESOLUTION 54/69

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 155 to 1, with 2 abstentions,[24] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/575)

54/69. Assistance to Palestine refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/46 of 3 December 1998 and all its previous resolutions on the question, including resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948,

Taking note of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999,[25]

Welcoming the signature in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993 by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the people of Palestine, of the Declaration of Principles on

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[23] See A/C.4/54/9.

[24] For details, see annex II.

[25] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 13* and addendum (A/54/13 and Add.1).

Interim Self-Government Arrangements[26] and the subsequent implementation agreements, and also the signature of the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[27]

Welcoming also the signing of the Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum on 4 September 1999,

Encouraging the Multilateral Working Group on Refugees of the Middle East peace process to continue its important work,

1. *Notes with regret* that repatriation or compensation of the refugees, as provided for in paragraph 11 of its resolution 194 (III), has not yet been effected and that, therefore, the situation of the refugees continues to be a matter of concern;

2. *Also notes with regret* that the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine has been unable to find a means of achieving progress in the implementation of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and requests the Commission to exert continued efforts towards the implementation of that paragraph and to report to the Assembly as appropriate, but no later than 1 September 2000;

3. *Expresses its thanks* to the Commissioner-General and to all the staff of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, recognizing that the Agency is doing all it can within the limits of available resources, and also expresses its thanks to the specialized agencies and to private organizations for their valuable work in assisting refugees;

4. *Notes* the significant success of the Peace Implementation Programme of the Agency since the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements,[26] and stresses the importance that contributions to this Programme not be at the expense of the General Fund;

5. *Welcomes* the increased cooperation between the Agency and international and regional organizations, States and relevant agencies and non-governmental organizations, which is essential to enhancing the contributions of the Agency towards improved conditions for the refugees and thereby the social stability of the occupied territory;

6. *Urges* all Member States to extend and expedite aid and assistance with a view to the economic and social development of the Palestinian people and the occupied territory;

7. *Reiterates its deep concern* regarding the persisting critical financial situation of the Agency, as outlined in the report of the Commissioner-General;[25]

8. *Commends* the efforts of the Commissioner-General to move towards budgetary transparency and internal efficiency, and welcomes in this respect the new, unified budget structure for the biennium 2000–2001, which can contribute significantly to improved budgetary transparency of the Agency;

9. *Welcomes* the consultative process between the Agency, host Governments, the Palestinian Authority and donors on management reforms;

10. *Notes with profound concern* that the continuing shortfall in the finances of the Agency has a significant negative influence on the living conditions of the Palestine refugees most in need and that it therefore has possible consequences for the peace process;

11. *Calls upon* all donors, as a matter of urgency, to make the most generous efforts possible to meet the anticipated needs of the Agency, including the remaining costs of moving the headquarters to Gaza, encourages contributing Governments to contribute regularly and to consider increasing their contributions, and urges non-contributing Governments to contribute.

RESOLUTION 54/70

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/575)

54/70. Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2656 (XXV) of 7 December 1970, 2728 (XXV) of 15 December 1970, 2791 (XXVI) of 6 December 1971, 53/47 of 3 December 1998 and the previous resolutions on this question,

Recalling also its decision 36/462 of 16 March 1982, by which it took note of the special report of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,[28]

Having considered the report of the Working Group,[29]

Taking into account the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999,[30]

Deeply concerned about the continuing critical financial situation of the Agency, which has affected and affects the continuation of the provision of necessary Agency services to Palestine refugees, including the emergency-related programmes,

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[26] A/48/486–S/26560, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*, document S/26560.

[27] A/51/889–S/1997/357, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-second Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1997*, document S/1997/357.

[28] A/36/866 and Corr.1; see also A/37/591.

[29] A/54/477.

[30] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 13* and addendum (A/54/13 and Add.1).

Emphasizing the continuing need for extraordinary efforts in order to maintain, at least at the current minimum level, the activities of the Agency, as well as to enable the Agency to carry out essential construction,

1. *Commends* the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East for its efforts to assist in ensuring the financial security of the Agency;

2. *Takes note with approval* of the report of the Working Group;[29]

3. *Requests* the Working Group to continue its efforts, in cooperation with the Secretary-General and the Commissioner-General, to find a solution to the financial situation of the Agency;

4. *Welcomes* the new, unified budget structure for the biennium 2000–2001, which can contribute significantly to improved budgetary transparency of the Agency;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and assistance to the Working Group for the conduct of its work.

RESOLUTION 54/71

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 154 to 2, with 2 abstentions,[31] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/575)

54/71. Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2252 (ES–V) of 4 July 1967 and 2341 B (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and all subsequent related resolutions,

Recalling also Security Council resolutions 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967 and 259 (1968) of 27 September 1968,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of its resolution 53/48 of 3 December 1998,[32]

Taking note also of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999,[33]

Concerned about the continuing human suffering resulting from the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities,

Taking note of the relevant provisions of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, signed in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993 by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization,[34] with regard to the modalities for the admission of persons displaced in 1967, and concerned that the process agreed upon has not yet been effected,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of all persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities to return to their homes or former places of residence in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Expresses the hope* for an accelerated return of displaced persons through the mechanism agreed upon by the parties in article XII of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements;[34]

3. *Endorses*, in the meanwhile, the efforts of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as practicable, on an emergency basis, and as a temporary measure, to persons in the area who are currently displaced and in serious need of continued assistance as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities;

4. *Strongly appeals* to all Governments and to organizations and individuals to contribute generously to the Agency and to the other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned for the above-mentioned purposes;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, after consulting with the Commissioner-General, to report to the General Assembly before its fifty-fifth session on the progress made with regard to the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/72

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 158 to none, with 1 abstention,[35] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/575)

54/72. Offers by Member States of grants and scholarships for higher education, including vocational training, for Palestine refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 212 (III) of 19 November 1948 on assistance to Palestine refugees,

Recalling also its resolutions 35/13 B of 3 November 1980, 36/146 H of 16 December 1981, 37/120 D of 16 December 1982, 38/83 D of 15 December 1983, 39/99 D of 14 December 1984, 40/165 D of 16 December 1985, 41/69 D of 3 December 1986, 42/69 D of 2 December 1987, 43/57 D of 6 December 1988, 44/47 D of 8 December 1989, 45/73 D of 11 December 1990, 46/46 D of 9 December 1991, 47/69 D of 14 December 1992, 48/40 D of 10 December 1993, 49/35 D of 9 December 1994, 50/28 D of 6 December 1995, 51/127 of 13 December 1996, 52/60 of 10 December 1997 and 53/49 of 3 December 1998,

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[31] For details, see annex II.

[32] A/54/377.

[33] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 13* and addendum (A/54/13 and Add.1).

[34] A/48/486–S/26560, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*, document S/26560.

[35] For details, see annex II.

Cognizant of the fact that the Palestine refugees have, for the last five decades, lost their homes, lands and means of livelihood,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[36]

Having also considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999,[37]

1. *Urges* all States to respond to the appeal in its resolution 32/90 F of 13 December 1977 and reiterated in subsequent relevant resolutions in a manner commensurate with the needs of Palestine refugees for higher education, including vocational training;

2. *Strongly appeals* to all States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to augment the special allocations for grants and scholarships to Palestine refugees, in addition to their contributions to the regular budget of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to all Governments, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations that responded favourably to its resolutions on this question;

4. *Invites* the relevant specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue, within their respective spheres of competence, to extend assistance for higher education to Palestine refugee students;

5. *Appeals* to all States, specialized agencies and the United Nations University to contribute generously to the Palestinian universities in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, including, in due course, the proposed University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds" for Palestine refugees;

6. *Appeals* to all States, specialized agencies and other international bodies to contribute towards the establishment of vocational training centres for Palestine refugees;

7. *Requests* the Agency to act as the recipient and trustee for the special allocations for grants and scholarships and to award them to qualified Palestine refugee candidates;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/73

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 154 to 2, with 1 abstention,[38] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/575)

54/73. Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 212 (III) of 19 November 1948, 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949 and all subsequent related resolutions,

Recalling also the relevant Security Council resolutions,

Having considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999,[39]

Taking note of the letter dated 30 September 1999 from the Chairperson of the Advisory Commission of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East addressed to the Commissioner-General, contained in the report of the Commissioner-General,[40]

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of its resolutions 48/40 E,[41] 48/40 H[42] and 48/40 J[43] of 10 December 1993 and 49/35 C[44] of 9 December 1994,

Recalling Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[45]

Affirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[46] to the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem,

Aware of the fact that Palestine refugees have, for over five decades, lost their homes, lands and means of livelihood,

Also aware of the continuing needs of Palestine refugees throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory and in the other fields of operation, namely, in Lebanon, Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic,

Further aware of the valuable work done by the refugee affairs officers of the Agency in providing protection to the Palestinian people, in particular Palestine refugees,

Deeply concerned about the continuing critical financial situation of the Agency and its effect on the continuity of provision of necessary Agency services to the Palestine refugees, including the emergency-related programmes,

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[36] A/54/376.

[37] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 13* and addendum (A/54/13 and Add.1).

[38] For details, see annex II.

[39] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 13* and addendum (A/54/13 and Add.1).

[40] Ibid., p. ix.

[41] A/49/440.

[42] A/49/442.

[43] A/49/443.

[44] A/50/451.

[45] Resolution 22 A (I).

[46] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

Aware of the work of the new Peace Implementation Programme of the Agency,

Recalling the signing in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993 of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization,[47] and the subsequent implementation agreements, including the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[48] as well as the signing of the Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum on 4 September 1999,

Taking note of the agreement reached on 24 June 1994, embodied in an exchange of letters between the Agency and the Palestine Liberation Organization,[49]

Aware of the establishment of a working relationship between the Advisory Commission of the Agency and the Palestine Liberation Organization in accordance with General Assembly decision 48/417 of 10 December 1993,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, as well as to all the staff of the Agency, for their tireless efforts and valuable work;

2. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Advisory Commission of the Agency, and requests it to continue its efforts and to keep the General Assembly informed of its activities, including the full implementation of decision 48/417;

3. *Welcomes* the completion of the transfer of the headquarters of the Agency to Gaza and the signing of the Headquarters Agreement between the Agency and the Palestinian Authority;

4. *Acknowledges* the support of the host Governments and the Palestine Liberation Organization for the Agency in the discharge of its duties;

5. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to accept the *de jure* applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[46] and to abide scrupulously by its provisions;

6. *Also calls upon* Israel to abide by Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations[45] with regard to the safety of the personnel of the Agency, the protection of its institutions and the safeguarding of the security of the facilities of the Agency in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem;

7. *Calls once again upon* the Government of Israel to compensate the Agency for damages to its property and facilities resulting from actions by the Israeli side;

8. *Requests* the Commissioner-General to proceed with the issuance of identification cards for Palestine refugees and their descendants in the Occupied Palestinian Territory;

9. *Notes* that the new context created by the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization[47] and subsequent implementation agreements has had major consequences for the activities of the Agency, which is henceforth called upon, in close cooperation with the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, the specialized agencies and the World Bank, to continue to contribute towards the development of economic and social stability in the occupied territory;

10. *Notes also* that the functioning of the Agency remains essential in all fields of operation;

11. *Notes further* the significant success of the Peace Implementation Programme of the Agency;

12. *Expresses concern* about the remaining austerity measures due to the financial crisis, which have affected the quality and level of some of the services of the Agency;

13. *Reiterates its request* to the Commissioner-General to consider the possibility of modernizing the archives of the Agency;

14. *Urges* all States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to continue and to increase their contributions to the Agency so as to ease current financial constraints and to support the Agency in maintaining the provision of the most basic and effective assistance to the Palestine refugees.

RESOLUTION 54/74

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 154 to 2, with 2 abstentions,[50] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/575)

54/74. Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 36/146 C of 16 December 1981 and all its subsequent resolutions on the question,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General in pursuance of resolution 53/51 of 3 December 1998,[51]

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[47] A/48/486–S/26560, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*, document S/26560.

[48] A/51/889–S/1997/357, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-second Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1997*, document S/1997/357.

[49] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/49/13), annex I.

[50] For details, see annex II.

[51] A/54/345.

Taking note also of the report of the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine for the period from 1 September 1998 to 31 August 1999,[52]

Recalling that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[53] and the principles of international law uphold the principle that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his or her property,

Recalling in particular its resolution 394 (V) of 14 December 1950, in which it directed the Conciliation Commission, in consultation with the parties concerned, to prescribe measures for the protection of the rights, property and interests of the Palestine Arab refugees,

Taking note of the completion of the programme of identification and evaluation of Arab property, as announced by the Conciliation Commission in its twenty-second progress report,[54] and of the fact that the Land Office had a schedule of Arab owners and file of documents defining the location, area and other particulars of Arab property,

Recalling that, in the framework of the Middle East peace process, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Government of Israel agreed, in the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993,[55] to commence negotiations on permanent status issues, including the important issue of the refugees,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Palestine Arab refugees are entitled to their property and to the income derived therefrom, in conformity with the principles of justice and equity;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all appropriate steps, in consultation with the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, for the protection of Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel, expresses its appreciation for the work done to preserve and modernize the existing records of the Commission, and requests the Secretary-General to complete this task;

3. *Calls once more upon* Israel to render all facilities and assistance to the Secretary-General in the implementation of the present resolution;

4. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned to provide the Secretary-General with any pertinent information in their possession concerning Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel that would assist him in the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Urges* the Palestinian and Israeli sides, as agreed between them, to deal with the important issue of Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues in the framework of the final status negotiations of the Middle East peace process;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/75

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 155 to 2, with 1 abstention,[56] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/575)

54/75. University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds" for Palestine refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 36/146 G of 16 December 1981, 37/120 C of 16 December 1982, 38/83 K of 15 December 1983, 39/99 K of 14 December 1984, 40/165 D and K of 16 December 1985, 41/69 K of 3 December 1986, 42/69 K of 2 December 1987, 43/57 J of 6 December 1988, 44/47 J of 8 December 1989, 45/73 J of 11 December 1990, 46/46 J of 9 December 1991, 47/69 J of 14 December 1992, 48/40 I of 10 December 1993, 49/35 G of 9 December 1994, 50/28 G of 6 December 1995, 51/130 of 13 December 1996, 52/63 of 10 December 1997 and 53/52 of 3 December 1998,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[57]

Having also considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999,[58]

1. *Emphasizes* the need for strengthening the educational system in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 5 June 1967, including Jerusalem, and specifically the need for the establishment of the proposed university;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take all necessary measures for establishing the University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds", in accordance with General Assembly resolution 35/13 B of 3 November 1980, giving due consideration to the recommendations consistent with the provisions of that resolution;

3. *Calls once more upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cooperate in the implementation of the present resolution and to remove the hindrances that it has put in the way of establishing the University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds";

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/76

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 84 to 2, with 67 abstentions,[59] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/576)

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[52] A/54/338, annex.

[53] Resolution 217 A (III).

[54] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes*, Annex No. 11, document A/5700.

[55] A/48/486–S/26560, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*, document S/26560.

[56] For details, see annex II.

[57] A/54/385.

[58] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 13* and addendum (A/54/13 and Add.1).

[59] For details, see annex II.

54/76. Work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Guided also by the principles of international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[illegible] as well as international standards of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[illegible] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[illegible]

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolution 2443 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968, and relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights,

Recalling also relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Aware of the lasting impact of the uprising (intifada) of the Palestinian people,

Convinced that occupation itself represents a gross violation of human rights,

Having considered the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[illegible] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[illegible]

Recalling the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993,[illegible] as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, including the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[illegible] and the recent signing of the Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum on 4 September 1999,

Expressing the hope that, with the progress of the peace process, the Israeli occupation will be brought to an end and therefore violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people will cease,

1. *Commends* the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly and for its impartiality;

2. *Demands* that Israel cooperate with the Special Committee in implementing its mandate;

3. *Deplores* those policies and practices of Israel which violate the human rights of the Palestinian people and other Arabs of the occupied territories, as reflected in the reports of the Special Committee covering the reporting period;[illegible]

4. *Expresses concern* about the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, as a result of Israeli practices and measures;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee, pending complete termination of the Israeli occupation, to continue to investigate Israeli policies and practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, especially Israeli lack of compliance with the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[illegible] to consult, as appropriate, with the International Committee of the Red Cross according to its regulations in order to ensure that the welfare and human rights of the peoples of the occupied territories are safeguarded, and to report to the Secretary-General as soon as possible and whenever the need arises thereafter;

6. *Also requests* the Special Committee to submit regularly to the Secretary-General periodic reports on the current situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem;

7. *Further requests* the Special Committee to continue to investigate the treatment of prisoners in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To provide the Special Committee with all necessary facilities, including those required for its visits to the occupied territories, so that it may investigate the Israeli policies and practices referred to in the present resolution;

(b) To continue to make available such additional staff as may be necessary to assist the Special Committee in the performance of its tasks;

(c) To circulate regularly to Member States the periodic reports mentioned in paragraph 6 above;

(d) To ensure the widest circulation of the reports of the Special Committee and of information regarding its activities and findings, by all means available, through the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and, where necessary, to reprint those reports of the Special Committee that are no longer available;

(e) To report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the tasks entrusted to him in the present resolution;

[illegible] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[illegible] Resolution 217 A (III).

[illegible] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[illegible] A/54/73 and Add.1 and A/54/325.

[illegible] A/54/[illegible].

[illegible] A/48/486-S/26560, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*, document S/26560.

[illegible] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-second Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1997*, document S/1997/357.

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories".

RESOLUTION 54/77

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 154 to 2, with 1 abstention,[67] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/576)

54/77. Applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Having considered the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[68] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[69]

Considering that the promotion of respect for the obligations arising from the Charter of the United Nations and other instruments and rules of international law is among the basic purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Noting the convening of the meeting of experts of the high contracting parties to the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[70] in Geneva from 27 to 29 October 1998, at the initiative of the Government of Switzerland in its capacity as the depositary of the Convention, concerning general problems of application of the Convention in general and, in particular, in occupied territories,

Noting also the convening on 15 July 1999 for the first time of a Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention, as recommended by the General Assembly in its resolution ES-10/6 of 9 February 1999, on measures to enforce the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and to ensure respect thereof in accordance with article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions,[71] and aware of the statement adopted by the Conference,

Stressing that Israel, the occupying Power, should comply strictly with its obligations under international law,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[70] is applicable to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Demands* that Israel accept the *de jure* applicability of the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, and that it comply scrupulously with the provisions of the Convention;

3. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Convention, in accordance with article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions,[71] to exert all efforts in order to ensure respect for its provisions by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

4. *Reiterates* the need for speedy implementation of the recommendations contained in its resolutions ES-10/3 of 15 July 1997, ES-10/4 of 13 November 1997, ES-10/5 of 17 March 1998 and ES-10/6 of 9 February 1999 with regard to ensuring respect by Israel, the occupying Power, for the provisions of the Convention;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/78

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 148 to 3, with 3 abstentions,[72] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/576)

54/78. Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its tenth emergency special session, as well as relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 446 (1979) of 22 March 1979, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[73] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Aware of the Middle East peace process started at Madrid and the agreements reached between the parties, in particular the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government

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[67] For details, see annex II.

[68] A/54/73 and Add.1 and A/54/325.

[69] A/54/181–185.

[70] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[71] Ibid., Nos. 970-973.

[72] For details, see annex II.

[73] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

Arrangements of 13 September 1993[74] and the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip of 28 September 1995,[75]

Expressing grave concern about the continuation by Israel of settlement activities, including the ongoing construction of the new settlement at Jebel Abu-Ghneim, in violation of international humanitarian law, relevant United Nations resolutions and the agreements reached between the parties,

Taking into consideration the detrimental impact of Israeli settlement policies, decisions and activities on the Middle East peace process,

Gravely concerned in particular about the dangerous situation resulting from actions taken by the illegal armed Israeli settlers in the occupied territory, as illustrated by the massacre of Palestinian worshippers by an illegal Israeli settler at Al-Khalil on 25 February 1994,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[76]

1. *Reaffirms* that Israeli settlements in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan are illegal and an obstacle to peace and economic and social development;

2. *Calls upon* Israel to accept the *de jure* applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[72] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and to the occupied Syrian Golan and to abide scrupulously by the provisions of the Convention, in particular article 49;

3. *Demands* complete cessation of the construction of the new settlement at Jebel Abu-Ghneim and of all Israeli settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan;

4. *Stresses* the need for full implementation of Security Council resolution 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994, in which, among other things, the Council called upon Israel, the occupying Power, to continue to take and implement measures, including confiscation of arms, with the aim of preventing illegal acts of violence by Israeli settlers, and called for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilians in the occupied territory;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/79

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 150 to 2, with 3 abstentions,[77] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/576)

54/79. Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its tenth emergency special session, and the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, the most recent of which are resolutions 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994 and 1073 (1996) of 28 September 1996,

Having considered the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[78] and the reports of the Secretary-General,[79]

Aware of the responsibility of the international community to promote human rights and ensure respect for international law,

Reaffirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Reaffirming also the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[80] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Recalling the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993,[81] as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, including the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[82] and the signing of the Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum on 4 September 1999,

Noting the withdrawal of the Israeli army, which took place in the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area, and the subsequent Israeli redeployments in accordance with the agreements reached between the parties,

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[74] A/48/486-S/26560, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*, document S/26560.

[75] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-second Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1997*, document S/1997/357.

[76] A/54/183.

[77] For details, see annex II.

[78] A/54/73 and Add.1 and A/54/325.

[79] A/54/181-185.

[80] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[81] A/48/486-S/26560, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*, document S/26560.

[82] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-second Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1997*, document S/1997/357.

Concerned about the continuing violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people by Israel, the occupying Power, including the use of collective punishment, closure of areas, annexation and establishment of settlements and the continuing actions by it designed to change the legal status, geographical nature and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem,

Convinced of the positive impact of a temporary international or foreign presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory for the safety and protection of the Palestinian people,

Expressing its appreciation to the countries that participated in the Temporary International Presence in Hebron for their positive contribution,

Convinced of the need for the full implementation of Security Council resolutions 904 (1994) and 1073 (1996),

1. *Determines* that all measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, in violation of the relevant provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[80] and contrary to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, are illegal and have no validity and that such measures should cease immediately;

2. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease all practices and actions which violate the human rights of the Palestinian people;

3. *Stresses* the need to preserve the territorial integrity of all the Occupied Palestinian Territory and to guarantee the freedom of movement of persons and goods within the Palestinian territory, including the removal of restrictions on movement into and from East Jerusalem, and the freedom of movement to and from the outside world;

4. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to accelerate the release of all remaining Palestinians arbitrarily detained or imprisoned, in line with agreements reached;

5. *Calls for* complete respect by Israel, the occupying Power, of all fundamental freedoms of the Palestinian people;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/80

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 150 to 1, with 5 abstentions,[83] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/576)

54/80. The occupied Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories,[84]

Deeply concerned that the Syrian Golan occupied since 1967 has been under continued Israeli military occupation,

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Recalling also its previous relevant resolutions, the last of which was resolution 53/57 of 3 December 1998,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of resolution 53/57,[85]

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions in which, *inter alia*, it called upon Israel to put an end to its occupation of the Arab territories,

Reaffirming once more the illegality of the decision of 14 December 1981 taken by Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan, which has resulted in the effective annexation of that territory,

Reaffirming that the acquisition of territory by force is inadmissible under international law, including the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[86] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967,

Welcoming the convening at Madrid of the Peace Conference on the Middle East on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 aimed at the realization of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace, and expressing grave concern about the stalling of the peace process on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks,

1. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply with the relevant resolutions on the occupied Syrian Golan, in particular Security Council resolution 497 (1981), in which the Council, *inter alia*, decided that the Israeli decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan was null and void and without international legal effect, and demanded that Israel, the occupying Power, rescind forthwith its decision;

2. *Also calls upon* Israel to desist from changing the physical character, demographic composition, institutional structure and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan and in particular to desist from the establishment of settlements;

3. *Determines* that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken or to be taken by Israel, the occupying Power, that purport to alter the character and legal

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[83] For details, see annex III.

[84] A/54/73 and Add.1 and A/54/325.

[85] A/54/184.

[86] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

status of the occupied Syrian Golan are null and void, constitute a flagrant violation of international law and of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[86] and have no legal effect;

4. *Calls upon* Israel to desist from imposing Israeli citizenship and Israeli identity cards on the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan, and to desist from its repressive measures against the population of the occupied Syrian Golan;

5. *Deplores* the violations by Israel of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;

6. *Calls once again upon* Member States not to recognize any of the legislative or administrative measures and actions referred to above;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/81

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/577)

54/81. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2006 (XIX) of 18 February 1965 and all other relevant resolutions,

Recalling in particular its resolution 53/58 of 3 December 1998,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization,[87]

Affirming that the efforts of the United Nations in the peaceful settlement of disputes, including through its peacekeeping operations, are indispensable,

Convinced of the need for the United Nations to continue to improve its capabilities in the field of peacekeeping and to enhance the effective and efficient deployment of its peacekeeping operations,

Considering the contribution that all States Members of the Organization make to peacekeeping,

Noting the widespread interest in contributing to the work of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations expressed by many Member States, in particular troop-contributing countries,

Bearing in mind the continuous necessity of preserving the efficiency and strengthening the effectiveness of the work of the Special Committee,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations;[88]

2. *Endorses* the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee, contained in paragraphs 43 to 130 of its report;

3. *Urges* Member States, the Secretariat and relevant organs of the United Nations to take all necessary steps to implement the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee;

4. *Reiterates* that those Member States that become personnel contributors to United Nations peacekeeping operations in years to come or participate in the future in the Special Committee for three consecutive years as observers shall, upon request in writing to the Chairman of the Special Committee, become members at the following session of the Special Committee;

5. *Decides* that the Special Committee, in accordance with its mandate, shall continue its efforts for a comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects and shall review the implementation of its previous proposals and consider any new proposals so as to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to fulfil its responsibilities in this field;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session;

7. *Decides* to keep open during its fifty-fourth session the item entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects".

RESOLUTIONS 54/82 A and B

A

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/578)

B

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/578)

54/82. Questions relating to information

A

INFORMATION IN THE SERVICE OF HUMANITY

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the comprehensive and important report of the Committee on Information,[89]

Also taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on questions relating to information,[90]

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[87] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/54/1).

[88] A/54/87.

[89] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 21* and addendum (A/54/21 and Add.1).

[90] A/54/415.

Urges all countries, organizations of the United Nations system as a whole and all others concerned, reaffirming their commitment to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to the principles of freedom of the press and freedom of information, as well as to those of the independence, pluralism and diversity of the media, deeply concerned by the disparities existing between developed and developing countries and the consequences of every kind arising from those disparities that affect the capability of the public, private or other media and individuals in developing countries to disseminate information and communicate their views and their cultural and ethical values through endogenous cultural production, as well as to ensure the diversity of sources and their free access to information, and recognizing the call in this context for what in the United Nations and at various international forums has been termed "a new world information and communication order, seen as an evolving and continuous process":

(*a*) To cooperate and interact with a view to reducing existing disparities in information flows at all levels by increasing assistance for the development of communication infrastructures and capabilities in developing countries, with due regard for their needs and the priorities attached to such areas by those countries, and in order to enable them and the public, private or other media in developing countries to develop their own information and communication policies freely and independently and increase the participation of media and individuals in the communication process, and to ensure a free flow of information at all levels;

(*b*) To ensure for journalists the free and effective performance of their professional tasks and condemn resolutely all attacks against them;

(*c*) To provide support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes for broadcasters and journalists from public, private and other media in developing countries;

(*d*) To enhance regional efforts and cooperation among developing countries, as well as cooperation between developed and developing countries, to strengthen communication capacities and to improve the media infrastructure and communication technology in the developing countries, especially in the areas of training and dissemination of information;

(*e*) To aim at, in addition to bilateral cooperation, providing all possible support and assistance to the developing countries and their media, public, private or other, with due regard to their interests and needs in the field of information and to action already adopted within the United Nations system, including:

(i) The development of the human and technical resources that are indispensable for the improvement of information and communication systems in developing countries and support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes, such as those already operating under both public and private auspices throughout the developing world;

(ii) The creation of conditions that will enable developing countries and their media, public, private or other, to have, by using their national and regional resources, the communication technology suited to their national needs, as well as the necessary programme material, especially for radio and television broadcasting;

(iii) Assistance in establishing and promoting telecommunication links at the subregional, regional and interregional levels, especially among developing countries;

(iv) The facilitation, as appropriate, of access by the developing countries to advanced communication technology available on the open market;

(*f*) To provide full support for the International Programme for the Development of Communication[91] of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which should support both public and private media.

B

UNITED NATIONS PUBLIC INFORMATION POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES

The General Assembly,

Reiterating its decision to consolidate the role of the Committee on Information as its main subsidiary body mandated to make recommendations to it relating to the work of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat,

Concurring with the view of the Secretary-General that public information and communications should be placed at the heart of the strategic management of the United Nations, and that a culture of communications should permeate all levels of the Organization, as a means of fully informing the peoples of the world of the aims and activities of the United Nations,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 13 (I) of 13 February 1946, in which it established the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat;

2. *Welcomes* Angola, the Republic of Moldova and Solomon Islands to membership in the Committee on Information;

3. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, in respect of the public information policies and activities of the United Nations, to continue to implement fully the recommendations contained in paragraph 2 of its resolution 48/44 B of 10 December 1993 and other mandates as established by the General Assembly;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the reorientation of United Nations activities in the field of public information and communications[92] and encourages him

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[91] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-first Session, Belgrade, 23 September to 28 October 1980*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, sect. III.4, resolution 4/21.

[92] A/AC.198/1999/2.

to continue the reorientation exercise, while stressing the need to take into account the views of Member States, and requests him to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its twenty-second session in May 2000;

5. *Emphasizes* that, through its reorientation, the Department of Public Information should maintain and improve its activities in the areas of special interest to developing countries and, where appropriate, other countries with special needs, including countries in transition, and that such reorientation should contribute to bridging the existing gap between the developing and the developed countries in the crucial field of public information and communications;

6. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on programme 23, Public information, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005[93] and, emphasizing that the implementation of the broad objectives outlined in the proposal should be in accordance with the objectives set forth in relevant General Assembly resolutions regarding questions relating to information, requests the Secretary-General to proceed with the submission of the proposal to the Committee for Programme and Coordination for consideration, in accordance with section I of General Assembly resolution 53/207 of 18 December 1998;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General also to focus in particular on educational institutions as key and indispensable partners of the United Nations in its efforts fully to inform the peoples of the world of its aims and activities;

8. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the Secretary-General to strengthen the public information capacity of the Department of Public Information for the formation and day-to-day functioning of the information components of peacekeeping and other field operations of the United Nations, and requests the Secretariat to continue to ensure the involvement of the Department from the planning stage of such future operations through interdepartmental consultations and coordination with other substantive departments of the Secretariat;

9. *Encourages* the Secretary-General further to strengthen consultative arrangements between the Department of Public Information and other substantive departments of the Secretariat, in particular those dealing with development issues;

10. *Recalls* its resolution 53/22 of 4 November 1998 concerning the proclamation of 2001 as the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations, and encourages the Secretary-General to strengthen the public information capacity of the Department of Public Information with a view to disseminating information on and drawing international attention to the dialogue among civilizations and the impact it could have on promoting mutual understanding, tolerance, peaceful coexistence and international cooperation;

11. *Also recalls* its resolution 53/202 of 17 December 1998 concerning the designation of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly as the Millennium Assembly of the United Nations and the convening, as an integral part of the Millennium Assembly, of the Millennium Summit of the United Nations, and encourages the Secretary-General to formulate and implement an effective public information strategy in this regard so as to ensure that the Summit will enjoy broad international support;

12. *Emphasizes* that all publications of the Department of Public Information should fulfil an identifiable need, should not duplicate other publications of the United Nations system and should be produced in a cost-effective manner;

13. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the Secretary-General to move the Dag Hammarskjöld Library in the direction of a virtual library, and requests him, at the same time, to enrich the stock of books and journals in the Library, including publications on peace and security and development-related issues, in order to ensure that it continues to be a broadly accessible resource for information about the United Nations and its activities;

14. *Urges* the Secretary-General to exert all efforts to ensure that publications and other information services of the Secretariat, including the United Nations Web site, contain comprehensive, objective and equitable information about the issues before the Organization and that they maintain editorial independence, impartiality, accuracy and full consistency with resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly;

15. *Notes* that the request made to the Secretary-General, in its resolution 53/59 B of 3 December 1998, to ensure full and direct access for the representatives of Member States to the briefings organized at Headquarters by the Office of the Spokesman for the Secretary-General and to ensure wider outreach of the outcome of such briefings has not been implemented, and therefore reiterates that request;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that information presented to the media is made available to delegations fully and in a timely fashion;

17. *Reaffirms* the importance attached by Member States to the role of United Nations information centres in effectively and comprehensively disseminating information in all parts of the world, in particular in developing countries and countries in transition, and especially in those countries where there is need for a better understanding of United Nations activities;

18. *Also reaffirms* the importance of all United Nations information centres meeting the primary objectives outlined by the Committee on Information in its report on its ninth session;[94]

19. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the integration of United Nations information centres with field offices of the United Nations Development Programme,[95] in which he notes that the objectives of the integration exercise remain valid, and notes his intention to make a concerted effort to address the problems encountered in the implementation of the integration exercise in a number of information centres;

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[93] A/AC.198/1999/8.

[94] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 21* (A/42/21), sect. III.D, recommendation 36.

[95] A/AC.198/1999/3.

20. *Notes with concern* that, while the co-location of United Nations information centres with field offices of the United Nations Development Programme has, to some extent, been able to enhance the image of the United Nations, the integration of United Nations information centres with field offices of the Programme has, in general, resulted in a lower level of programme delivery and a narrower range of activities and, in cases of relocation of information centres to common premises with the Programme, has frequently resulted in higher maintenance costs and leadership and staff problems, and that, to a large extent, the policy of integration has not in all cases achieved its stated objective of performing functions efficiently, effectively and in a cost-effective manner;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to carry out a case-by-case review and submit his proposals on the functioning of the integrated centres on a priority basis, in full consultation with the host Governments, and to submit a report to the Committee on Information at its twenty-second session;

22. *Notes* that the Department of Public Information intends to prepare, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme, a set of guidelines indicating the operational framework for the integrated centres, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the guidelines, prior to their implementation, to the Committee on Information at its twenty-second session;

23. *Reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly in relation to the opening of new United Nations information centres, and invites the Secretary-General to make such recommendations as he may consider necessary regarding the establishment and location of such centres;

24. *Takes note* of the information provided by the Secretary-General in his report concerning the allocation of resources to United Nations information centres in 1998,[96] and calls upon him to continue to study ways and means of rationalizing and effecting the equitable disbursement of available resources to all United Nations information centres and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its twenty-second session;

25. *Welcomes* the action taken by some Member States with regard to providing financial and material support to United Nations information centres in their respective capitals, and invites the Secretary-General, through the Department of Public Information, to consult Member States, where appropriate, on the possibility of providing the centres with additional voluntary support on a national basis, bearing in mind that such support should not be a substitute for the full allocation of financial requirements for the United Nations information centres in the context of the programme budget of the United Nations;

26. *Welcomes also* the requests by Croatia, Gabon, Guinea, Haiti, Jamaica and Kyrgyzstan for information centres or information components;

27. *Recognizes* the continuing enhanced cooperation between the Department of Public Information and the University for Peace in Costa Rica as a focal point for promoting United Nations activities and disseminating United Nations information materials, and requests the Secretary-General to report on those activities;

28. *Expresses its full support* for wide, accurate, equal and prompt coverage of United Nations activities through the continuation and improvement of United Nations press releases, stresses the importance of having these press releases issued in all official languages of the United Nations, and requests other relevant bodies of the General Assembly to give due consideration to this matter;

29. *Stresses* that radio is one of the most cost-effective and far-reaching media available to the Department of Public Information and an important instrument in United Nations activities, such as development and peacekeeping, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 48/44 B;

30. *Encourages* further increasing the number of programmes of United Nations Radio, in all available languages, on the United Nations site on the Internet;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement fully the recommendations contained in paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 38/82 B of 15 December 1983 with regard to the introduction of full programming in French and Creole in the work programme of the Caribbean Unit of United Nations Radio;

32. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the design and scope of a pilot project for the development of an international radio broadcasting capacity for the United Nations,[97] and requests the Department of Public Information to start, as soon as possible, the implementation of the pilot project through, *inter alia*, contacts with interested Member States and specialized institutions, with a view to ensuring the assistance necessary for the success of the project, taking into account the need to enhance the existing resources and services, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a progress report on the implementation of this project to the Committee on Information at its twenty-second session;

33. *Underlines* the continuing importance of using traditional and mass media channels to disseminate information on the United Nations, and encourages the Secretary-General, through the Department of Public Information, to continue to take full advantage of recent developments in information technologies, including the Internet, in order to improve, in a cost-effective manner, the dissemination of information on the United Nations, in accordance with the priorities established by the General Assembly and taking into account the linguistic diversity of the Organization;

34. *Takes note* of efforts by some United Nations information centres to establish their own Web pages in local languages, and recommends that the Department of Public Information encourage other information centres to develop Web pages in the respective local languages of their host countries;

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[96] A/AC.198/1999/4.

[97] A/AC.198/1999/5.

35. *Takes note with appreciation*, with reference to the report of the Secretary-General on the continuous development, maintenance and enrichment of United Nations Web sites[98] and the report of the Secretary-General on the multilingual development, maintenance and enrichment of United Nations Web sites,[99] of the efforts of the Secretary-General to develop and enhance the United Nations Web sites in all official languages of the Organization, requests him to pursue these efforts and to continue to develop proposals for consideration by the Committee on Information at its twenty-second session, having in mind the goal of achieving modular parity among official languages, stressing that this goal should be achieved in a cost-effective manner and with a focus on textual content;

36. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Geneva Diplomatic Community Network, which has improved the dissemination of information among the permanent missions, the United Nations Office at Geneva and the other international organizations based in Geneva, and requests the Secretary-General to continue providing his support to this important programme;

37. *Expresses its appreciation* for the ongoing programme for broadcasters and journalists from developing countries and countries in transition conducted by the Department of Public Information, and calls for its further expansion so as to include a larger number of trainees from developing countries;

38. *Acknowledges* the important work carried out by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its collaboration with news agencies and broadcasting organizations in developing countries in disseminating information on priority issues;

39. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue to ensure the greatest possible access for United Nations guided tours, and to ensure that displays in public areas are kept as informative, up-to-date, relevant and technologically innovative as possible;

40. *Recalls* its resolutions concerning the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, in particular resolutions 51/138 B of 13 December 1996 and 52/172 of 16 December 1997, and encourages the Department of Public Information, in cooperation with the countries concerned and with the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to take appropriate measures to enhance world public awareness of the consequences of that disaster;

41. *Recalls also* its resolution 53/1 H of 16 November 1998, concerning international cooperation and coordination for the human and ecological rehabilitation of the Semipalatinsk region of Kazakhstan, which has been affected by nuclear tests, and encourages the Department of Public Information, in cooperation with relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to take appropriate measures to enhance world public awareness of the problems and needs of the Semipalatinsk region;

42. *Recalls* its resolution 53/59 B of 3 December 1998 and urges the Department of Public Information to take the necessary measures, through the provision of relevant and objective information, with a view to achieving the major objectives set forth in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa;[100]

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its twenty-second session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the activities of the Department of Public Information and on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the present resolution;

44. *Requests* the Committee on Information to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

45. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Questions relating to information".

RESOLUTION 54/83

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 155 to none, with 6 abstentions,[101] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/579)

54/83. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations[102] and the action taken by the Special Committee in respect of that information,

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General,[103]

Recalling its resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which it requested the Special Committee to study the information transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 73 *e* of the Charter and to take such information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

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[98] A/AC.198/1999/6.

[99] A/AC.198/1999/9 and Corr.1 and 2.

[100] A/52/871-S/1998/318; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1998*, document S/1998/318.

[101] For details, see annex II.

[102] A/54/23 (Part II), chap. VIII. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23*.

[103] A/54/343.

Recalling also its resolution 53/60 of 3 December 1998, in which it requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII),

Stressing the importance of timely transmission by the administering Powers of adequate information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter, in particular in relation to the preparation by the Secretariat of the working papers on the Territories concerned,

1. *Approves* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations;[102]

2. *Reaffirms* that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

3. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to transmit or continue to transmit to the Secretary-General the information prescribed in Article 73 *e* of the Charter, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in those Territories;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that adequate information is drawn from all available published sources in connection with the preparation of the working papers relating to the Territories concerned;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 54/84

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 153 to 2, with 5 abstentions,[104] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/580)

54/84. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories",

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the item,[105]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and all its other relevant resolutions, including, in particular, resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991,

Reaffirming the solemn obligation of the administering Powers under the Charter of the United Nations to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the Territories under their administration and to protect the human and natural resources of those Territories against abuses,

Reaffirming also that any economic or other activity that has a negative impact on the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and on the exercise of their right to self-determination in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) is contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Reaffirming further that the natural resources are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location, size and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the need to promote the economic stability, diversification and strengthening of the economy of each Territory,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation,

Conscious also that foreign economic investment, when done in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes, could make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories and could also make a valid contribution to the exercise of their right to self-determination,

Concerned about any activities aimed at exploiting the natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to the detriment of the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, the South Pacific Forum and the Caribbean Community,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, as well as their right to the enjoyment of their natural resources

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[104] For details, see annex II.

[105] A/54/23 (Part II), chap. V. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23*.

and their right to dispose of those resources in their best interest;

2. *Affirms* the value of foreign economic investment undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes in order to make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories;

3. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and reaffirms the legitimate rights of their peoples over their natural resources;

4. *Reaffirms its concern* about any activities aimed at the exploitation of the natural resources that are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations, in the Caribbean, the Pacific and other regions, as well as their human resources, to the detriment of their interests, and in such a way as to deprive them of their right to dispose of those resources;

5. *Affirms* the need to avoid any economic or other activities that adversely affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

6. *Calls once again upon* all Governments that have not yet done so to take, in accordance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, legislative, administrative or other measures in respect of their nationals and the bodies corporate under their jurisdiction that own and operate enterprises in the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are detrimental to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories, in order to put an end to such enterprises;

7. *Reiterates* that the damaging exploitation and plundering of the marine and other natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, in violation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, is a threat to the integrity and prosperity of those Territories;

8. *Invites* all Governments and organizations of the United Nations system to take all possible measures to ensure that the permanent sovereignty of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories over their natural resources is fully respected and safeguarded;

9. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to take all necessary steps to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers concerned to ensure that no discriminatory working conditions prevail in the Territories under their administration and to promote in each Territory a fair system of wages applicable to all the inhabitants without any discrimination;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, through all means at his disposal, to inform world public opinion of any activity that affects the exercise of the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV);

12. *Appeals* to the mass media, trade unions and non-governmental organizations, as well as individuals, to continue their efforts to promote the economic well-being of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

13. *Decides* to follow the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to ensure that all economic activities in those Territories are aimed at strengthening and diversifying their economies in the interest of their peoples, including the indigenous populations, and at promoting the economic and financial viability of those Territories;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 54/85

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 101 to none, with 52 abstentions,[106] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/581)

54/85. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",

Having also considered the reports submitted on the item by the Secretary-General[107] and the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[108]

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee relating to the item,[109]

Recalling its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and the resolutions of the Special Committee, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions, including in particular Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/38 of 30 July 1998,

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[106] For details, see annex II.

[107] A/54/119.

[108] A/AC.109/1999/L.16.

[109] A/54/23 (Part II), chap. VII. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23*.

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, the South Pacific Forum and the Caribbean Community,

Conscious of the need to facilitate the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in resolution 1514 (XV),

Noting that the large majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are small island Territories,

Welcoming the assistance extended to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

Also welcoming the participation in the capacity of observer of those Non-Self-Governing Territories which are associate members of regional commissions in the world conferences in the economic and social sphere, and in the special session of the General Assembly on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, held at Headquarters from 30 June to 2 July 1999,

Noting that only some specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system have been involved in providing assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Stressing that, because the development options of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that those Territories will be constrained in meeting the challenges without the continued cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Stressing also the importance of securing the necessary resources for funding expanded assistance programmes for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

Reaffirming the mandates of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all appropriate measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to ensure the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the Organization of African Unity, the South Pacific Forum, the Caribbean Community and other regional organizations for the continued cooperation and assistance they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in this regard,

Expressing its conviction that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of programmes of assistance to the peoples concerned,

Mindful of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various United Nations decisions relating to decolonization,

Bearing in mind the extremely fragile economies of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sea-level rise, and recalling its relevant resolutions,

Recalling its resolution 53/62 of 3 December 1998 on the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General[107] and the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;[108]

2. *Recommends* that all States intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Reaffirms* that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions;

4. *Reaffirms also* that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspirations of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and requests all the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to implement the relevant provisions of those resolutions;

6. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Territory so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories;

7. *Urges* those specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system which have not yet provided assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories to do so as soon as possible;

8. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system and regional organizations to strengthen existing measures of support and formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;

9. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system concerned to provide information on:

(*a*) Environmental problems facing the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(*b*) The impact of natural disasters, such as hurricanes and volcanoes, and other environmental problems, such as beach and coastal erosion and droughts, on those Territories;

(*c*) Ways and means to assist the Territories in fighting drug trafficking, money-laundering and other illegal and criminal activities;

(*d*) The illegal exploitation of the marine resources of the Territories and the need to utilize those resources for the benefit of the peoples of the Territories;

10. *Recommends* that the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and submit the proposals to their governing and legislative organs;

11. *Also recommends* that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review at the regular meetings of their governing bodies the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

12. *Welcomes* the continuing initiative exercised by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and in providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

13. *Encourages* Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies;

14. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to facilitate the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system so that the Territories may benefit from the related activities of those agencies and organizations;

15. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to assist the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in working out appropriate measures for implementing the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and to prepare for submission to the relevant bodies, with the assistance of those agencies and organizations, a report on the action taken in implementation of the relevant resolutions, including the present resolution, since the circulation of his previous report;

17. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of resolution 574 (XXVII),[110] in which the Commission called for the necessary mechanisms to permit its associate members, including small island Non-Self-Governing Territories, to participate, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, in the special sessions of the Assembly to review and appraise the implementation of the programmes of action of those United Nations conferences in which the Territories originally participated in the capacity of observer, and in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies;

18. *Recalls* its resolution 53/189 of 15 December 1998, in which, *inter alia*, it called for the participation of associate members of regional economic commissions in the special session of the General Assembly for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, subject to the rules of procedure of the Assembly, and in the preparatory process thereof, in the same capacity of observer that held for their participation in the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, held at Bridgetown from 25 April to 6 May 1994;

19. *Commends* the Economic and Social Council for its debate and resolution on this question, and requests it to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

20. *Requests* the specialized agencies to report periodically to the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the governing bodies of the appropriate specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations so that those bodies may take the necessary measures to implement it, and also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

22. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

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[110] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 21* (E/1998/41), chap. III.G.

RESOLUTION 54/86

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/582)

54/86. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/63 of 3 December 1998,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,[111] prepared pursuant to its resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954,

Conscious of the importance of promoting the educational advancement of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Strongly convinced that the continuation and expansion of offers of scholarships is essential in order to meet the increasing need of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories for educational and training assistance, and considering that students in those Territories should be encouraged to avail themselves of such offers,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[111]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have made scholarships available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Invites* all States to make or continue to make generous offers of study and training facilities to the inhabitants of those Territories that have not yet attained self-government or independence and, wherever possible, to provide travel funds to prospective students;

4. *Urges* the administering Powers to take effective measures to ensure the widespread and continuous dissemination in the Territories under their administration of information relating to offers of study and training facilities made by States and to provide all the necessary facilities to enable students to avail themselves of such offers;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/87

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/584)

54/87. Question of Western Sahara

The General Assembly,

Having considered in depth the question of Western Sahara,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all peoples to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling its resolution 53/64 of 3 December 1998,

Recalling also the agreement in principle given on 30 August 1988 by the Kingdom of Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Río de Oro to the proposals of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairman of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in the context of their joint mission of good offices,

Recalling further Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) of 27 June 1990 and 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991, by which the Council approved the settlement plan for Western Sahara,[112]

Recalling all the Security Council and General Assembly resolutions relating to the question of Western Sahara,

Reaffirming the responsibility of the United Nations towards the people of Western Sahara, as provided for in the settlement plan,

Noting with satisfaction the entry into force of the ceasefire in accordance with the proposal of the Secretary-General, and stressing the importance it attaches to the maintenance of the ceasefire as an integral part of the settlement plan,

Also noting with satisfaction the agreements[113] reached by the two parties during their private direct talks aimed at the implementation of the settlement plan, and stressing the importance it attaches to a full, fair and faithful implementation of the settlement plan and the agreements aimed at its implementation,

Further noting with satisfaction the progress made in the implementation of the settlement plan since December 1997,

Taking note of Security Council resolutions 1131 (1997) of 29 September 1997, 1198 (1998) of 18 September 1998, 1204 (1998) of 30 October 1998, 1215 (1998) of 17 December

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[111] A/54/267.

[112] See *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-fifth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1990*, document S/21360; and ibid., *Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1991*, document S/22464.

[113] Ibid., *Fifty-second Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1997*, documents S/1997/742 and Add.1.

1998, 1224 (1999) of 28 January 1999, 1228 (1999) of 11 February 1999, 1232 (1999) of 30 March 1999, 1235 (1999) of 30 April 1999, 1238 (1999) of 14 May 1999 and 1263 (1999) of 13 September 1999,

Welcoming the acceptance by the two parties of the detailed modalities for the implementation of the Secretary-General's package of measures relating to the identification of voters, the appeals process and the revised implementation timetable,[illegible]

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[illegible]

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General,[illegible]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[illegible]

2. *Again notes with satisfaction* the agreements[illegible] reached between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Río de Oro for the implementation of the settlement plan[illegible] during their private direct talks under the auspices of James Baker III, the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General, and urges the parties to implement those agreements fully and in good faith;

3. *Commends* the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy for their efforts in reaching those agreements as well as the two parties for the cooperation they have shown, and urges them to continue this cooperation in order to facilitate the speedy implementation of the settlement plan;

4. *Urges* the two parties to continue their cooperation with the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy, as well as with his Special Representative, and to refrain from undertaking anything that would undermine the implementation of the settlement plan and the agreements reached for its implementation;

5. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress achieved in connection with the implementation of the settlement plan, and in this respect calls upon the two parties to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General, his Personal Envoy and his Special Representative in implementing the various phases of the settlement plan;

6. *Urges* the two parties to implement faithfully and loyally the Secretary-General's package of measures relating to the identification of voters, the appeals process and the revised implementation timetable;

7. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the United Nations towards the people of Western Sahara, as provided for in the settlement plan;

8. *Reiterates its support* for further efforts of the Secretary-General for the organization and the supervision by the United Nations, in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity, of a referendum for self-determination of the people of Western Sahara that is impartial and free of all constraints, in conformity with Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) and 690 (1991), by which the Council approved the settlement plan for Western Sahara;

9. *Takes note* of Security Council resolutions 1131 (1997), 1238 (1999) and 1263 (1999);

10. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to consider the situation in Western Sahara, bearing in mind the positive ongoing implementation of the settlement plan, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

11. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/88

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/584)

54/88. Question of New Caledonia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of New Caledonia,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to New Caledonia,[illegible]

Reaffirming the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960,

Noting the importance of the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote political, economic and social development in the Territory, including measures in the area of environmental protection and action with respect to drug abuse and trafficking, in order to provide a framework for its peaceful progress to self-determination,

Noting also, in this context, the importance of equitable economic and social development, as well as continuing dialogue among the parties involved in New Caledonia in the preparation of the act of self-determination of New Caledonia,

Noting with satisfaction the intensification of contacts between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries of the South Pacific region,

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[illegible] See S/1999/483/Add.1; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1999*.

[illegible] A/54/23 (Part II), chap. IX. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23*.

[illegible] A/54/557.

[illegible] A/54/23 (Part II), chap. IX. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23*.

1. *Welcomes* the significant developments that have taken place in New Caledonia as exemplified by the signing of the Nouméa Accord of 5 May 1998 between the representatives of New Caledonia and the Government of France;[176]

2. *Urges* all the parties involved, in the interest of all the people of New Caledonia, to maintain, in the framework of the Nouméa Accord, their dialogue in a spirit of harmony;

3. *Notes* the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord aimed at taking more broadly into account the Kanak identity in the political and social organization of New Caledonia, and also those provisions of the Accord relating to control of immigration and protection of local employment;

4. *Also notes* the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord to the effect that New Caledonia may become a member or associate member of certain international organizations, such as international organizations in the Pacific region, the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organization, according to their regulations;

5. *Further notes* the agreement between the signatories of the Nouméa Accord that the progress made in the emancipation process shall be brought to the attention of the United Nations;

6. *Welcomes* the fact that the administering Power invited to New Caledonia, at the time the new institutions were established, a mission of information which comprised representatives of countries of the Pacific region;

7. *Calls upon* the administering Power to transmit information regarding the political, economic and social situation of New Caledonia to the Secretary-General;

8. *Invites* all the parties involved to continue promoting a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in which all options are open and which would safeguard the rights of all New Caledonians according to the letter and the spirit of the Nouméa Accord, which is based on the principle that it is for the populations of New Caledonia to choose how to control their destiny;

9. *Welcomes* measures that have been taken to strengthen and diversify the New Caledonian economy in all fields, and encourages further such measures in accordance with the spirit of the Matignon and Nouméa Accords;

10. *Also welcomes* the importance attached by the parties to the Matignon and Nouméa Accords to greater progress in housing, employment, training, education and health care in New Caledonia;

11. *Acknowledges* the contribution of the Melanesian Cultural Centre to the protection of the indigenous culture of New Caledonia;

12. *Notes* the positive initiatives aimed at protecting the natural environment of New Caledonia, notably the "Zoneco" operation designed to map and evaluate marine resources within the economic zone of New Caledonia;

13. *Acknowledges* the close links between New Caledonia and the peoples of the South Pacific and the positive actions being taken by the French and territorial authorities to facilitate the further development of those links, including the development of closer relations with the countries members of the South Pacific Forum;

14. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the accession by New Caledonia to the status of observer in the South Pacific Forum, continuing high-level visits to New Caledonia by delegations from countries of the Pacific region and high-level visits by delegations from New Caledonia to countries members of the South Pacific Forum;

15. *Decides* to keep under continuous review the process unfolding in New Caledonia as a result of the signing of the Nouméa Accord;

16. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 54/89

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/584)

54/89. Question of Tokelau

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Tokelau,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the question of Tokelau,[177]

Recalling the solemn declaration on the future status of Tokelau, delivered by the *Ulu-o-Tokelau* (the highest authority on Tokelau) on 30 July 1994, that an act of self-determination in Tokelau is now under active consideration, together with the constitution of a self-governing Tokelau, and that the present preference of Tokelau is for a status of free association with New Zealand,

Recalling also its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular General Assembly resolution 53/66 of 3 December 1998,

Recalling further the emphasis placed in the solemn declaration on the terms of Tokelau's intended free association relationship with New Zealand, including the expectation that the form of help Tokelau could continue to expect from New

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[176] A/AC.109/2154, annex.

[177] A/54/23 (Part III), chap. XI. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23*

Zealand in promoting the well-being of its people, besides its external interests, would be clearly established in the framework of that relationship,

Noting with appreciation the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand as the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to Tokelau and its readiness to permit access by United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

Noting also with appreciation the collaborative contribution to the development of Tokelau by New Zealand and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme and the International Telecommunication Union,

Recalling the dispatch in 1994 of a United Nations visiting mission to Tokelau,

Noting that, as a small island Territory, Tokelau exemplifies the situation of most remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Noting also that, as a case study pointing to successful decolonization, Tokelau has wider significance for the United Nations as it seeks to complete its work in decolonization,

1. *Notes* that Tokelau remains firmly committed to the development of self-government and to an act of self-determination that would result in Tokelau assuming a status in accordance with the options on future status for Non-Self-Governing Territories contained in principle VI of the annex to General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960;

2. *Also notes* Tokelau's desire to move at its own pace towards an act of self-determination;

3. *Further notes* the inauguration in 1999 of a national Government based on village elections by universal adult suffrage;

4. *Commends* Tokelau's ongoing work in charting a distinctive constitutional course, reflecting its unique traditions and environment;

5. *Also commends* Tokelau for current initiatives and endeavours, based on wide consultation with its people, to construct a true "house of Tokelau", acknowledging the role of the village as the foundation of Tokelau, as well as the need to continue the process of strengthening the basis of national self-government and the aim of establishing the capacity for economic survival in a sustainable way;

6. *Acknowledges* the attention being given to broader matters of governance, including the upgrading of financial regulations, to establish clear local channels of responsibility in national and village government;

7. *Notes* that, responding to the desire of Tokelau, the Government of New Zealand has legislation in place to enable responsibility for the Tokelau Public Service to be passed from the State Services Commissioner in New Zealand to Tokelau, the timing to be set by mutual agreement when Tokelau has established a suitable local employment framework;

8. *Acknowledges* Tokelau's need for reassurance, given that local resources cannot adequately cover the material side of self-determination, and the ongoing responsibility of Tokelau's external partners to assist Tokelau in balancing its desire to be self-reliant to the greatest extent possible with its need for external assistance;

9. *Welcomes* the assurances of the Government of New Zealand that it will meet its obligations to the United Nations with respect to Tokelau and abide by the freely expressed wishes of the people of Tokelau with regard to their future status;

10. *Welcomes also* the statement on official development assistance cooperation between New Zealand and Tokelau, setting out the direction and broad structure of New Zealand official development assistance to Tokelau, to better meet new development and governance needs in the medium term;

11. *Calls upon* the administering Power and United Nations agencies to continue their assistance to Tokelau, as it further develops its economy and governance structures within the context of its ongoing constitutional evolution;

12. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

RESOLUTIONS 54/90 A and B

A

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/584)

B

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 6 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/584)

54/90. Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

A

GENERAL

The General Assembly,

Having considered the questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands, hereinafter referred to as "the Territories",

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[illegible]

[illegible] A/54/23 (Part II), chap. X. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23*.

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to those Territories, including, in particular, the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its fifty-third session on the individual Territories covered by the present resolution,

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the sentiments of the peoples of the Territories require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options of self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Recalling its resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, containing the principles that should guide Member States in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

Expressing its concern that even thirty-nine years after the adoption of the Declaration there still remain a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Acknowledging the significant achievements by the international community towards the eradication of colonialism in accordance with the Declaration, and conscious of the importance of continuing effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by the year 2000 and the plan of action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[illegible]

Noting the positive constitutional developments in some Non-Self-Governing Territories about which the Special Committee has received information, while also acknowledging the need for recognition to be given to expressions of self-determination by the peoples of the Territories consistent with practice under the Charter,

Recognizing that in the decolonization process there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination as enunciated by the General Assembly in its resolutions 1514 (XV), 1541 (XV) and other resolutions,

Welcoming the stated position of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland that it continues to take seriously its obligations under the Charter to develop self-government in the dependent Territories and, in cooperation with the locally elected Governments, to ensure that their constitutional frameworks continue to meet the wishes of the people, and the emphasis that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories to decide their future status,

Welcoming also the stated position of the Government of the United States of America that it supports fully the principles of decolonization and takes seriously its obligations under the Charter to promote to the utmost the well-being of the inhabitants of the Territories under United States administration,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the necessity of promoting economic stability and diversifying and strengthening further the economies of the respective Territories as a matter of priority,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation and, in this connection, bearing in mind the programmes of action of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and other relevant world conferences,

Aware of the usefulness both to the Territories and to the Special Committee of the participation of appointed and elected representatives of the Territories in the work of the Special Committee,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Convinced also that any negotiations to determine the status of a Territory must not take place without the active involvement and participation of the people of that Territory,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in resolutions 1514 (XV), 1541 (XV) and other resolutions of the General Assembly,

Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, and considering that the possibility of sending further visiting missions to the Territories at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Powers should be kept under review,

Noting that the Special Committee held a Caribbean regional seminar at Castries, Saint Lucia, from 25 to 27 May 1999 to hear the views of the representatives of the Territories, as well as Governments and organizations in the region, in order to review the political, economic and social conditions in the Territories,

Mindful that in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the peoples of the Territories and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering Powers and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territories, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories,

Mindful also in this connection that the Special Committee regards the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters and other venues, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, as a helpful means to fulfil its mandate, while recognizing the need for reviewing the role of those seminars in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

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[illegible] See A/46/634/Rev.1 and Corr.1, annex.

Mindful further that some Territories have not had any United Nations visiting mission for a long period of time and that no such visiting missions have been sent to some of the Territories,

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, and regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank,

Noting the ongoing efforts of the Special Committee in carrying out a critical review of its work with the aim of making appropriate and constructive recommendations and decisions to attain its objectives in accordance with its mandate,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the peoples of the Territories to self-determination, including, if they so wish, independence, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Reaffirms also* that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments, to facilitate programmes of political education in the Territories in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV);

3. *Requests* the administering Powers to transmit to the Secretary-General information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter and other updated information and reports, including reports on the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories regarding their future political status as expressed in fair and free referendums and other forms of popular consultation, as well as the results of any informed and democratic processes consistent with practice under the Charter that indicate the clear and freely expressed wish of the people to change the existing status of the Territories;

4. *Stresses* the importance for the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to be apprised of the views and wishes of the peoples of the Territories and to enhance its understanding of their conditions;

5. *Reaffirms* that United Nations visiting missions to the Territories at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Powers are an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, and requests the administering Powers and the elected representatives of the peoples of the Territories to assist the Special Committee in this regard;

6. *Reaffirms also* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territories, and recommends that priority continue to be given, in consultation with the territorial Governments concerned, to the strengthening and diversification of their respective economies;

7. *Requests* the administering Powers, in consultation with the peoples of the Territories, to take all necessary measures to protect and conserve the environment of the Territories under their administration against any environmental degradation, and requests the specialized agencies concerned to continue to monitor environmental conditions in those Territories;

8. *Calls upon* the administering Powers, in cooperation with the respective territorial Governments, to continue to take all necessary measures to counter problems related to drug trafficking, money laundering and other offences;

9. *Stresses* that the eradication of colonialism requires the full and constructive cooperation of all parties involved, and notes with concern that the plan of action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism cannot be concluded by the year 2000;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to enter into constructive dialogue with the Special Committee before the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly to develop a framework for the implementation of the provisions of Article 73 of the Charter and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for the period beyond 2000;

11. *Notes* the particular circumstances that prevail in the Territories concerned, and encourages the political evolution in them towards self-determination;

12. *Urges* Member States to contribute to the efforts of the United Nations to usher in the twenty-first century in a world free of colonialism, and calls upon them to continue to give their full support to the Special Committee in its endeavours towards that noble goal;

13. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to initiate or to continue to take all necessary measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Territories, and calls for closer cooperation between the Special Committee and the Economic and Social Council in furtherance of the provision of assistance to the Territories;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on the implementation of resolutions concerning decolonization adopted since the declaration of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;

15. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the small Territories and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

B

Individual Territories

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

I. *American Samoa*

Taking note of the report by the administering Power that most American Samoan leaders express satisfaction with the island's present relationship with the United States of America,

Taking note with interest of the statement made and the information on the political and economic situation in American Samoa provided by the Governor of American Samoa to the Pacific regional seminar held at Nadi, Fiji, from 16 to 18 June 1998,[122]

Noting that the territorial Government continues to have significant financial, budgetary and internal control problems and that the Territory's deficit and financial condition are compounded by the high demand for government services from the rapidly growing population, a limited economic and tax base and recent natural disasters,

Noting also that the Territory, similar to isolated communities with limited funds, continues to experience a lack of adequate medical and other infrastructural facilities,

Aware of the efforts of the territorial Government to control and reduce expenditures, while continuing its programme of expanding and diversifying the local economy,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power to continue to assist the territorial Government in the economic and social development of the Territory, including measures to strengthen the financial management capabilities and other functions of the territorial Government;

3. *Welcomes* the invitation extended by the Governor of American Samoa to the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to send a visiting mission to the Territory;

II. *Anguilla*

Conscious of the commitment of both the Government of Anguilla and the administering Power to a new and closer policy of dialogue and partnership through the Country Policy Plan for 1993–1997 and its successor,

Aware of the efforts of the Government of Anguilla to continue to develop the Territory as a viable and well-regulated offshore financial centre for investors, by enacting modern company and trust laws, as well as partnership and insurance legislation, and computerizing the company registry system,

Noting the need for continuing cooperation between the administering Power and the territorial Government in tackling the problems of drug trafficking and money laundering,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power and all States, organizations and United Nations agencies to continue to assist the Territory in social and economic development;

3. *Welcomes* the country cooperation framework of the United Nations Development Programme for the period 1997–1999 currently being implemented following consultations with the territorial Government and key development partners in the United Nations system and the donor community;

4. *Also welcomes* the assessment by the United Nations Development Programme that the Territory has made considerable progress in the domain of sustainable human development and in its sound management and preservation of the environment, which has been incorporated into the National Tourism Plan;

5. *Further welcomes* the assessment by the Caribbean Development Bank in its 1998 report on the Territory that the medium- and long-term economic prospects for Anguilla were favourable;

III. *Bermuda*

Noting the results of the independence referendum held on 16 August 1995, and conscious of the different viewpoints of the political parties of the Territory on the future status of the Territory,

Noting also the functioning of the democratic process and the smooth transition of government in November 1998,

Noting further the comments made by the administering Power in its recently published White Paper on Partnership for Progress and Prosperity: Britain and the Overseas Territories,[123]

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power to continue to work with the Territory for its socio-economic development;

3. *Requests* the administering Power to elaborate, in consultation with the territorial Government, programmes specifically intended to alleviate the economic, social and environmental consequences of the closure of the military bases and installations of the United States of America in the Territory;

IV. *British Virgin Islands*

Noting the completion of the constitutional review in the Territory and the coming into force of the amended Constitution, and noting also the results of the general elections held on 17 May 1999,

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[122] See A/AC.109/2121, para. 28.

[123] A/AC.109/1999/1 and Corr.1, annex.

Noting also the results of the constitutional review of 1993–1994, which made it clear that a prerequisite to independence must be a constitutionally expressed wish by the people as a result of a referendum,

Taking note of the statement made in 1995 by the Chief Minister of the British Virgin Islands that the Territory was ready for constitutional and political advancement towards full internal self-government and that the administering Power should assist through the gradual transfer of power to elected territorial representatives,

Noting that the Territory is emerging as one of the world's leading offshore financial centres,

Noting also the need for continued cooperation between the administering Power and the territorial Government in countering drug trafficking and money laundering,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Requests* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and all financial institutions to continue to provide assistance to the Territory for socio-economic development and the development of human resources, bearing in mind the vulnerability of the Territory to external factors;

V. *Cayman Islands*

Noting the constitutional review of 1992–1993, according to which the population of the Cayman Islands expressed the sentiment that the existing relations with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland should be maintained and that the current status of the Territory should not be altered,

Aware that the Territory has one of the highest per capita incomes in the region, a stable political climate and virtually no unemployment,

Noting the actions taken by the territorial Government to implement its localization programme to promote increased participation by the local population in the decision-making process in the Cayman Islands,

Noting with concern the vulnerability of the Territory to drug trafficking, money laundering and related activities,

Noting the measures taken by the authorities to deal with those problems,

Noting also that the Territory has emerged as one of the world's leading offshore financial centres,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Requests* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to provide the territorial Government with all required expertise to enable it to achieve its socio-economic aims;

3. *Calls upon* the administering Power and the territorial Government to continue to cooperate to counter problems related to money laundering, smuggling of funds and other related crimes, as well as drug trafficking;

4. *Requests* the administering Power, in consultation with the territorial Government, to continue to facilitate the expansion of the current programme of securing employment for the local population, in particular at the decision-making level;

5. *Welcomes* the implementation of the country cooperation framework of the United Nations Development Programme for the Territory, which is designed to ascertain national development priorities and United Nations assistance needs;

VI. *Guam*

Recalling that, in a referendum held in 1987, the registered and eligible voters of Guam endorsed a draft Guam Commonwealth Act that would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power, providing for a greater measure of internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the Chamorro people of Guam to self-determination for the Territory,

Recalling also its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular General Assembly resolutions 52/77 A and B of 10 December 1997,

Recalling further the requests by the elected representatives and non-governmental organizations of the Territory that Guam not be removed from the list of the Non-Self-Governing Territories with which the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples is concerned, pending the self-determination of the Chamorro people and taking into account their legitimate rights and interests,

Aware of the continuing negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act and on the future status of the Territory, with particular emphasis on the question of the evolution of the relationship between the United States of America and Guam,

Cognizant that the administering Power continues to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

Noting that the people of the Territory have called for reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough, unconditional and expeditious transfer of land property to the people of Guam,

Conscious that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland, *Aware* of the potential for diversifying and developing the economy of Guam through commercial fishing and agriculture and other viable activities,

Noting the proposed closing and realigning of four United States Navy installations on Guam and the request for the establishment of a transition period to develop some of the closed facilities as commercial enterprises,

Recalling the dispatch in 1979 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory, and noting the recommendation of the 1996 Pacific regional seminar for sending a visiting mission to Guam,[124]

Noting with interest the statements made and the information on the political and economic situation in Guam provided by the representatives of the Territory to the Caribbean regional seminar, held at Castries, Saint Lucia, from 25 to 27 May 1999,

1. *Requests* the administering Power to work with Guam's Commission on Decolonization for the Implementation and Exercise of Chamorro Self-Determination with a view to facilitating the decolonization of Guam, and to keep the Secretary-General informed of progress to that end;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power to take into consideration the expressed will of the Chamorro people as endorsed by the people of Guam, encourages the administering Power and the territorial Government of Guam to continue the negotiations on the matter, and requests the administering Power to inform the Secretary-General of progress to that end;

3. *Requests* the administering Power to continue to assist the elected territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals;

4. *Also requests* the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to transfer land to the people of the Territory;

5. *Further requests* the administering Power to continue to recognize and respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the Chamorro people of Guam, and to take all necessary measures to respond to the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the question of immigration;

6. *Requests* the administering Power to cooperate in establishing programmes specifically intended to promote the sustainable development of economic activities and enterprises, noting the special role of the Chamorro people in the development of Guam;

7. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue to support appropriate measures by the territorial Government aimed at promoting growth in commercial fishing and agricultural and other viable activities;

VII. *Montserrat*

Taking note with interest of the statements made and the information on the political and economic situation in Montserrat provided by the elected representatives of the Territory to the Caribbean regional seminar, held at Castries, Saint Lucia, from 25 to 27 May 1999,

Taking note of the statement made by the Chief Minister of Montserrat on 22 May 1998 on the occasion of the observance of the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of All Colonial Territories Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Human Rights,[125]

Noting that the last visiting mission to the Territory was dispatched in 1982,

Noting also the functioning of a democratic process in Montserrat and that general elections were held in the Territory in November 1996,

Taking note of the reported statement of the Chief Minister that his preference was for independence within a political union with the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and that self-reliance was more of a priority than independence,

Noting with concern the dire consequences of the eruptions of the Montsoufriere volcano, which led to the evacuation of three quarters of the population of the Territory to safe areas of the island and to areas outside the Territory, in particular Antigua and Barbuda and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and which continues to have a negative impact upon the economy of the island,

Noting the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to meet the emergency situation caused by the volcanic eruptions, including the implementation of a wide range of contingency measures for both the private and the public sectors in Montserrat,

Noting also the coordinated response measures taken by the United Nations Development Programme and the assistance of the United Nations disaster management team,

Noting with concern that a number of the inhabitants of the Territory continue to live in shelters because of volcanic activity,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system as well as regional and other organizations to continue to provide urgent emergency assistance to the Territory in alleviating the consequences of the volcanic eruptions;

3. *Welcomes* the support of the Caribbean Community in the construction of housing in the safe zone to alleviate a shortage caused by the environmental and human crisis of the eruptions of the Montsoufriere volcano, as well as the material and financial support of the international community to help alleviate the suffering caused by the crisis;

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[124] See A/AC.109/2058, para. 33 (20).

[125] See A/AC.109/SR.1486.

VIII. *Pitcairn*

Taking into account the unique nature of Pitcairn in terms of population and area,

Expressing its satisfaction with the continuing economic and social advancement of the Territory, as well as with the improvement of its communications with the outside world and its management plan to address conservation issues,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue its assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory;

IX. *St. Helena*

Taking into account the unique character of St. Helena, its population and its natural resources,

Noting that a Commission of Inquiry into the Constitution appointed at the request of the Legislative Council of St. Helena reported its recommendations in March 1999, and that the Legislative Counsellors are currently considering its recommendations,

Also noting the administering Power's commitment to consider carefully suggestions for specific proposals for constitutional change from the territorial Governments as stated in its White Paper on Partnership for Progress and Prosperity: Britain and the Overseas Territories,[123]

Aware of the establishment by the territorial Government of the Development Agency in 1995 to encourage private sector commercial development on the island,

Also aware of the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial authorities to improve the socio-economic conditions of the population of St. Helena, in particular in the sphere of food production, and the continuing negotiations to allow access to Ascension Island by civilian charter flights,

Noting with concern the problem of unemployment on the island, and noting the joint action of the administering Power and the territorial Government to deal with it,

1. *Notes* that the administering Power has taken note of various statements made by members of the Legislative Council of St. Helena about the Constitution and is prepared to discuss them further with the people of St. Helena;

2. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

3. *Requests* the administering Power and relevant regional and international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the socio-economic development of the Territory;

X. *Turks and Caicos Islands*

Taking note with interest of the statements made and the information on the political and economic situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands provided by the Cabinet Minister as well as a member of the legislature from the opposition of the Territory to the Caribbean regional seminar, held at St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda, from 21 to 23 May 1997,[126]

Noting that the People's Democratic Movement was elected to power in the Legislative Council elections held in March 1999,

Also noting the efforts by the territorial Government to strengthen financial management in the public sector, including efforts to increase revenue,

Noting with concern the vulnerability of the Territory to drug trafficking and related activities, as well as its problems caused by illegal immigration,

Noting the need for continued cooperation between the administering Power and the territorial Government in countering drug trafficking and money laundering,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Invites* the administering Power to take fully into account the wishes and interests of the Government and the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands in the governance of the Territory;

3. *Calls upon* the administering Power and the relevant regional and international organizations to continue to provide assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory;

4. *Calls upon* the administering Power and the territorial Government to continue to cooperate to counter problems related to money laundering, smuggling of funds and other related crimes, as well as drug trafficking;

5. *Welcomes* the assessment by the Caribbean Development Bank in its 1998 report that the economy continued to expand with considerable output and low inflation;

6. *Also welcomes* the first country cooperation framework approved by the United Nations Development Programme for the period 1998–2002, which should, *inter alia*, assist in the development of a national integrated development plan that will put into place procedures for determining the national development priorities over ten years, with the focus of attention on health, population, education, tourism and economic and social development;

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[126] See A/AC.109/2089, para. 29.

XI. *United States Virgin Islands*

Taking note with interest of the statements made and the information provided by the representative of the Governor of the Territory to the Caribbean regional seminar, held at Castries, Saint Lucia, from 25 to 27 May 1999,

Noting that although 80.4 per cent of the 27.5 per cent of the electorate that voted in the referendum on the political status of the Territory held on 11 October 1993 supported the existing territorial status arrangements with the administering Power, the law required the participation of 50 per cent of the registered voters for the results to be declared legally binding and therefore the status was left undecided,

Noting also the continuing interest of the territorial Government in seeking associate membership in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and observer status in the Caribbean Community and the Association of Caribbean States,

Noting further the necessity of further diversifying the economy of the Territory,

Noting the efforts of the territorial Government to promote the Territory as an offshore financial services centre,

Noting with satisfaction the interest of the Territory in joining the United Nations International Drug Control Programme as a full participant,

Recalling the dispatch in 1977 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue to assist the territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals;

3. *Further requests* the administering Power to facilitate the participation of the Territory, as appropriate, in various organizations, in particular the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Caribbean Community and the Association of Caribbean States;

4. *Expresses concern* that the Territory, which is already heavily indebted, had to borrow 21 million United States dollars from a commercial bank to carry out its year 2000 computer compliance programme, and calls for the United Nations year 2000 programme to be made available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

5. *Notes* that the general elections held in the Territory in November 1998 resulted in the orderly transfer of power;

6. *Expresses concern* that the territorial Government is facing severe fiscal problems, which has resulted in an accumulated debt of more than 1 billion dollars;

7. *Welcomes* the measures being taken by the newly elected territorial Government in addressing the fiscal crisis, and calls upon the administering Power to provide every assistance required by the Territory to alleviate the crisis, including, *inter alia*, the provision of appropriate debt relief and loans.

IV. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

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RESOLUTION 54/196

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/585/Add.1)

54/196. High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/179 of 18 December 1997 and 53/173 of 15 December 1998,

Taking note of the report of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group of the General Assembly on Financing for Development,[1]

Taking note also of Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/51 of 29 July 1999 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields and cooperation between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions,

1. *Endorses* the report of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group of the General Assembly on Financing for Development,[1] as an important input for the continuation of the process, as it provides the framework and reference for the scope, agenda and form of the final event of the high-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development, as well as for the preparatory process;

2. *Decides* to convene in 2001 a high-level intergovernmental event of political decision makers, at least at the ministerial level, on financing for development, in the context of paragraph 20 of the report of the Working Group;

3. *Also decides* that the high-level intergovernmental event in 2001 will address national, international and systemic issues relating to financing for development in a holistic manner in the context of globalization and interdependence, and, by so doing, will also address development through the perspective of finance; within this overall context, the event should also address the mobilization of financial resources for the full implementation of the outcome of major conferences and summits organized by the United Nations during the 1990s and the implementation of the Agenda for Development,[2] in particular with regard to poverty eradication;

4. *Reiterates* that, as identified in the report of the Working Group, both the preparatory process and the high-level intergovernmental event should involve the participation of all relevant stakeholders;

5. *Decides* to establish an intergovernmental Preparatory Committee, open to all States, to carry out the substantive preparations for the high-level intergovernmental event;

6. *Also decides* that the Preparatory Committee, at its resumed organizational session, based on the results of consultations to be held with all relevant stakeholders in a flexible manner, should consider innovative ways and mechanisms to facilitate the active involvement of all relevant stakeholders in both the preparatory process and the high-level intergovernmental event;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States and in the context of paragraphs 20 and 21 of the report of the Working Group and paragraphs 17 and 18 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/51, to initiate as soon as possible preliminary consultations with all relevant stakeholders, in particular the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization, on the potential modalities for their participation in both the substantive preparatory process and the high-level intergovernmental event, and also requests the Secretary-General to provide the results of those consultations to the Preparatory Committee for consideration at the first part of its organizational session;

8. *Decides* to constitute a Bureau of the Preparatory Committee, which will consist of fifteen representatives of Member States to the United Nations selected according to the principle of equitable geographical representation and will be presided over by two co-chairmen;

9. *Also decides* that the first organizational session of the Preparatory Committee should be held as soon as possible and no later than the end of January 2000 to elect the Bureau, and in this regard requests the President of the General Assembly to begin consultations with Member States as soon as possible;

10. *Requests* the Bureau, *inter alia*, in the context of paragraphs 20 and 21 of the report of the Working Group and paragraphs 17 and 18 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/51 and with the further assistance of the Secretary-General, to continue consultations with all relevant stakeholders on the modalities for their participation, including the possibility of creating a joint task force, in both the substantive preparatory process and the high-level intergovernmental event, and also requests the Bureau to submit proposals to the Preparatory Committee at its resumed organizational session on the modalities of participation of all relevant stakeholders;

11. *Decides* that the resumed organizational session of the Preparatory Committee should be held as soon as possible and no later than March 2000, and, on the basis of the report of the Working Group and the proposals on modalities to be submitted by the Bureau, and taking into account the outcome of the consultations of the Secretary-General, will consider the following questions:

(*a*) The form of the final event, including a possible summit, international conference, special session of the General Assembly or other high-level international intergovernmental forum on financing for development;

(*b*) The venue of the final event;

(*c*) The timing, duration and format of the final event;

(*d*) Clarification of the agenda;

(*e*) Modalities for the participation of institutional stakeholders in both the preparatory process and the high-level intergovernmental event, notably:

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 28* (A/54/28).

[2] Resolution 51/240, annex.

(i) The World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization, including, in the last case, participation of the secretariat level and by member and observer States;

(ii) The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the regional commissions;

(f) Modalities for the participation of other stakeholders, notably non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in both the preparatory process and the high-level intergovernmental event;

(g) The programme of work of the Preparatory Committee;

12. *Also decides* that the first substantive session of the Preparatory Committee should be held in May 2000;

13. *Invites* Member States to consider sending experts to participate in the preparatory process, and encourages bilateral and multilateral donors to facilitate the participation of developing countries in both the preparatory process and the high-level intergovernmental event;

14. *Calls upon* the relevant entities of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the regional commissions, as well as the regional development banks and all other relevant stakeholders, to provide inputs for consideration during the preparatory process;

15. *Requests* the relevant entities of the United Nations system, in accordance with their respective mandates, to take into account the schedule of the Preparatory Committee and meetings of the regional commissions in assisting countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in preparing for the discussion on financing for development;

16. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to take into account the schedule of the Preparatory Committee and meetings of the regional commissions in assisting developing countries and countries with economies in transition in preparing for the discussion on financing for development;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close consultation with all Member States, to provide the Preparatory Committee and the high-level intergovernmental event with a secretariat commensurate with the level of the event and adequate staff and other resources, further invites the Secretary-General in this context to explore, in consultation with all relevant institutional stakeholders, the possibility of utilizing in the secretariat staff from among the stakeholders, as appropriate, and also requests the Secretary-General to make proposals in this regard to the Preparatory Committee at its second organizational session in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

18. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution and on the overall work undertaken with regard to the high-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development".

RESOLUTION 54/197

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 155 to 1, with no abstentions,[1] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/588/Add.2)

54/197. Towards a stable international financial system, responsive to the challenges of development, especially in the developing countries

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 53/172 of 15 December 1998 on the financial crisis and its impact on growth and development, especially in the developing countries,

Taking note of the high-level regional meeting on the theme "Towards a stable and predictable international financial system and its relationship to social development", held at Mexico City from 5 to 7 September 1999, in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, in order to contribute to the process launched by the General Assembly in its resolution 53/172,

Recognizing that the increasing globalization of financial markets and capital flows has presented Governments, the multilateral financial institutions and the international community at large with new challenges and opportunities for the mobilization of adequate and more stable resources for promoting economic development and social welfare,

Stressing the importance of the provision of adequate financial resources for the development of all countries, in particular developing countries, *inter alia*, through public and private financial flows, international trade, official development assistance and an adequate level of funding support for debt relief, in particular the agreement for an overall financing plan for the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative, as well as mobilization of domestic resources, and that the comprehensive and integrated consideration of those issues should continue in the framework of the dialogue and collaboration between the United Nations system and the Bretton Woods institutions,

Deeply concerned at the overall declining trend in official development assistance, which is a significant external resource for financing development and an important source of support for the efforts of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, to create an enabling environment for eradicating poverty and tackling basic social needs, especially where private capital flows may be either inadequate or unavailable,

Emphasizing the importance of finding a durable solution to the problem of developing countries in meeting their external debt and debt-servicing obligations in order to release resources for financing their development efforts, welcoming, in this context, the Cologne debt initiative launched in June 1999 and the recent decisions of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank on the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative, which should provide deeper, broader and faster relief, and in this regard stressing the need for fair, equitable and transparent burden-sharing among the international public creditor community and other donor countries,

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[1] For details, see annex II.

Noting the establishment of credit contingency lines by the International Monetary Fund and the efforts to create and to strengthen the regional reserves in some regions,

Expressing the need for future multilateral trade negotiations to result, *inter alia*, in increased access to markets for goods and services that are of export interest to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, as trade is an important source of financial resources for their development efforts,

Mindful of the need for the benefits of the increasing integration of global markets to be extended to all nations and peoples, in particular to developing countries, especially the least developed among them, noting that, while a number of developing countries have been able to take advantage of globalization of finance, not all of them have benefited from such flows, as they may be unavailable, inadequate or too concentrated to satisfy their needs, especially the least developed among them, and, therefore, noting the need to expand private capital flows while reducing the risks of volatility and to broaden access by developing countries to those flows,

Noting the desirability of having financial regulatory frameworks so that capital mobility may benefit developing economies rather than undermine their development efforts, and noting in particular that short-term speculative capital flows, owing to their highly volatile nature, can often have negative impacts on the long-term goals of developing countries,

Regretting that the recent financial crises led to a significant slowdown in the economic growth of many developing countries and other affected countries and had negative impacts in terms of social development, with the gravest impact on the most vulnerable, and in this context noting that, while some of the most visible effects of the crises are being overcome in some regions and sectors, continued action on a wide range of reforms needs to be taken so as to strengthen the international financial system and to adapt as well as to implement economic and legal frameworks, while reaffirming the need for continued efforts by individual economies to avoid the repetition of those crises,

Recognizing that the recent financial crises have exposed weaknesses in the international financial system, and underlining the urgent need to continue to work on a wide range of reforms for a strengthened and more stable international financial system with a view to enabling it to deal more effectively and in a timely manner with the new challenges of development in the context of global financial integration,

Emphasizing that the United Nations, in fulfilling its role in the promotion of development, in particular of developing countries, plays an important role in the international efforts to build up the necessary international consensus on the continuation of a wide range of reforms needed for a strengthened and more stable international financial system that is responsive to the challenges of development, especially in the developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity in the global economy,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General and the note by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the financial crises and its impact on growth and development, especially in the developing countries, the report of the Task Force of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat entitled "Towards a new international financial architecture", the *World Economic and Social Survey, 1999* and the *Trade and Development Report, 1999*;

2. *Emphasizes* the need to renew national, regional and international efforts to promote international financial stability and, to this end, to improve early warning, prevention and response capabilities for dealing with the emergence and spread of financial crises in a timely manner, taking a comprehensive and long-term perspective while remaining responsive to the challenges of development and the protection of the most vulnerable countries and social groups;

3. *Stresses* the importance of having an enabling international environment through strong cooperative efforts by all countries and institutions to promote global economic development, and to this end calls upon all countries, in particular major industrialized countries, which have significant weight in influencing world economic growth, to adopt and pursue coordinated policies conducive to world economic growth and international financial stability and the promotion of an external economic environment favourable to a widespread economic recovery, including the full recovery of crisis-affected countries;

4. *Recognizes* the importance of international financial stability, and in this context invites developed countries, in particular major industrialized countries, when formulating their macroeconomic policies, to take into account the priorities of growth and development, in particular of developing countries;

5. *Stresses* the importance at the national level of strong domestic institutions to promote the achievement of growth and development, *inter alia*, through sound macroeconomic policies and policies aimed at strengthening the regulatory and supervisory systems of the financial and banking sectors, including appropriate institutional arrangements in the countries of both origin and destination of international capital flows;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of accelerating the growth and development prospects of the least developed countries, which remain the poorest and most vulnerable of the international community, and calls upon development partners

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A/54/471.

A/54/512/Add.1.

See www.un.org/esa/coordination/ecesa/ecesa99-1.htm.

United Nations publication, Sales No. E.99.II.C.1.

United Nations publication, Sales No. E.99.II.D.1.

to carry on with their efforts to increase official development assistance and their efforts aimed at strengthening debt relief, improving market access and enhancing balance-of-payments support;

7. *Stresses* the need for a continued and constructive dialogue, in the relevant institutions and forums, among developed and developing countries at the regional and subregional levels, among others, on the need for the international community to continue to work together in formulating approaches to promoting financial stability and on issues related to strengthening and reforming the international financial system, and in this context reiterates the need for broadening and strengthening the participation of developing countries in the international economic decision-making process in order to promote more efficient international financial institutions and arrangements in which all relevant interests can be effectively represented;

8. *Encourages* the deepening of the dialogue between the Economic and Social Council and the Bretton Woods institutions in order to promote the wide range of reforms needed in an international financial architecture that reflects the global interests of the international community, and in this regard recommends that their next high-level meeting give priority to the consideration of the modalities needed to achieve a strengthened and more stable international financial system responsive to the challenges of development, especially in the developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity in the global economy;

9. *Emphasizes* that the international financial institutions, in providing policy advice and supporting adjustment programmes, should ensure that they are sensitive to the specific circumstances of concerned countries and to the special needs of developing countries and should work towards the best possible outcomes in terms of growth and development, including poverty eradication, *inter alia*, through the protection of effective social expenditure determined by each country in accordance with its national economic and social development strategies;

10. *Stresses* the need further to define the role and improve the capacities of the international, regional and subregional financial institutions with regard to the prevention, management and resolution in a timely and effective manner of international financial crises, encourages efforts to enhance the stabilizing role of regional and subregional financial institutions and arrangements in supporting the management of monetary and financial issues, in accordance with the mandate of each institution, and requests the regional commissions to provide their views on this matter to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session through their regular reports to the Economic and Social Council;

11. *Emphasizes* the need to develop further early warning capacities and modalities to prevent or, as the case may be, to take timely action to address the threat of financial crisis, and in this regard encourages the International Monetary Fund and other relevant international and regional institutions to continue their efforts to contribute to this process;

12. *Underscores* the need for the enhancement of worldwide financial stability, *inter alia*, through the provision to the international financial institutions, in particular the International Monetary Fund, of adequate resources to provide emergency financing in a timely manner to countries affected by financial crises;

13. *Stresses* that the opening of capital accounts must be carried out in an orderly, gradual and well-sequenced manner, at a pace that is in line with the strengthening of the ability of countries to cope with its consequences, underscores the crucial importance of solid domestic financial systems and of an effective prudential framework, invites the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and relevant international regulatory bodies to contribute to this process, and in this context recognizes that all countries have autonomy in the management of capital accounts in accordance with their own national priorities and needs;

14. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen international and national financial systems through more effective national, regional and international surveillance of both the public and private sectors, based, *inter alia*, on the improved availability and transparency of information, as appropriate, and possible additional regulatory and voluntary disclosure measures concerning financial market participants, including international institutional investors, in particular concerning highly leveraged operations, and in this context also reaffirms the importance of continuing to work in the relevant forums on questions related to surveillance, transparency and disclosure, regulation and supervision;

15. *Stresses* the importance of strengthened collaboration between the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund in specific areas where collaboration is needed, such as the financial sector, while recognizing the specific mandates of the two institutions, and also stresses the need for institutions dealing with financial crises to keep in mind the overall objective of facilitating long-term development;

16. *Calls for* the renewal of national, regional and international efforts to promote the greater involvement of the private sector in the prevention and resolution of financial crises, underscores in this context the importance of a more equitable distribution of the cost of adjustments between the public and private sectors and among debtors, creditors and investors, and requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to provide information to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session about the work it has undertaken on this matter;

17. *Reiterates its call* upon the international community to pursue national, regional and international efforts to contribute to minimizing the negative impacts of excessive volatility of global financial flows, reiterates in this context the need to consider the establishment of regulatory frameworks for short-term capital flows and trade in currencies, and invites the International Monetary Fund and the relevant regulatory bodies to contribute to this process;

18. *Emphasizes* that it is important for sovereign risk assessments made by private sector agencies to be based on objective and transparent parameters, and in this regard invites the relevant national, regional and international regulatory bodies to contribute to the development of appropriate standards to ensure that risk-assessment agencies provide complete and accurate information on a timely and regular basis;

19. *Encourages* the continuing efforts of the World Bank and regional development banks to help Governments to address the social consequences of crises, in particular through the strengthening of social safety nets in developing countries, particularly for the most vulnerable groups, without losing sight of the long-term goals of development;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to support, *inter alia*, through collaboration with the regional commissions and regional and subregional initiatives, the ongoing work on the identification of measures that will contribute to a more stable and predictable international financial system that is responsive to the challenges of development, in particular of developing countries, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to make available the results of those exercises to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

21. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with all relevant entities of the United Nations, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the regional commissions, within their respective mandates, and in consultation with the Bretton Woods institutions, to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution under the sub-item entitled "Financing of development, including net transfer of resources between developing and developed countries", with an analysis of the current trend in global financial flows and recommendations for an agenda for a strengthened and more stable international financial system that is responsive to the priorities of growth and development, in particular of developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity in the global economy;

22. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to transmit the present resolution to the Board of Executive Directors of the World Bank and the Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund, in order to bring it to their attention as an input to their discussions on the matters addressed herein.

RESOLUTION 54/198

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/585/Add.3 and Corr.1)

54/198. International trade and development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 50/95 and 50/98 of 20 December 1995, 51/167 of 16 December 1996, 52/182 of 18 December 1997 and 53/170 of 15 December 1998, as well as relevant international agreements concerning trade, economic growth, development and interrelated issues,

Reaffirming also the outcome of the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held at Midrand, South Africa,[illegible] which provides an important framework for promoting a partnership for growth and development,

Emphasizing that a favourable and conducive international economic and financial environment and a positive investment climate are necessary for the economic growth of the world economy, including the creation of employment, in particular for the growth and development of developing countries, and emphasizing also that each country is responsible for its own economic policies for sustainable development,

Noting the need for multilateral trade liberalization, and noting also that a large number of developing countries have assumed the rights and obligations of the World Trade Organization without being able to reap the full benefits of, and participate fully in, the multilateral trading system, and that there is a need for progress towards liberalization and enhanced market access, including in areas and products of particular interest to developing countries,

Noting also the importance of assisting developing countries in building their capacity to engage effectively in international trade,

Stressing that full and faithful implementation of the commitments and obligations in multilateral trade agreements is important to the equitable and sustainable development and stability of the world economy,

Strongly emphasizing the importance of providing all members of the World Trade Organization with the opportunity to engage fully and effectively in the process of multilateral trade negotiations and in other activities within the multilateral trading system, in order to facilitate the attainment of balanced results with respect to the interests of all members,

Taking note of the report of the Trade and Development Board on its forty-sixth session,[illegible] and the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries,[illegible]

Noting, in the context of international trade and development, the ongoing work of the Commonwealth Secretariat/World Bank Joint Task Force on Small States,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[illegible]

1. *Recognizes* the importance of the expansion of international trade as an engine of growth and development and, in this context, the need for expeditious and complete integration of developing countries and countries with economies in transition into the international trading system, in full cognizance of the opportunities and challenges of globalization and liberalization and taking into account the circumstances of individual countries, in particular the trade interests and development needs of developing countries;

[illegible] *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Ninth Session, Midrand, South Africa, 27 April–11 May 1996, Report and Annexes* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.II.D.4), part one, sect. A.

[illegible] A/54/15 (Part V). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 15*.

[illegible] A/54/529, annex.

[illegible] A/54/304.

2. *Renews its commitment* to uphold and strengthen an open, rule-based, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable multilateral trade system, which contributes to the economic and social advancement of all countries and peoples by promoting the liberalization and expansion of trade, employment and stability and by providing a framework for the conduct of international trade relations;

3. *Expresses concern* at the declining terms of trade in primary commodities, in particular for net exporters of such commodities, as well as the lack of progress in many developing countries in diversification, and in this regard strongly emphasizes the need for actions at both the national and international levels, *inter alia*, through improved market access conditions and support for capacity-building;

4. *Recognizes* that the substantial improvement of market access for exports of goods and services from developing countries through, *inter alia*, the reduction or removal of tariff and non-tariff barriers should be a high priority for multilateral trade negotiations, and in this regard notes the needs and concerns of some countries with economies in transition;

5. *Deplores* any attempt to bypass or undermine multilaterally agreed procedures on the conduct of international trade by unilateral actions inconsistent with the multilateral trade rules and regulations, including those agreed upon in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations;

6. *Expresses concern* about the proliferation of anti-dumping and countervailing measures, and stresses that they should not be used as protectionist measures;

7. *Reaffirms* the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of development and related issues in the areas of trade, finance, technology, investment and sustainable development;

8. *Welcomes* the progress made so far in the preparations for the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to be held at Bangkok from 12 to 19 February 2000, by the Trade and Development Board and the host Government, considers that the tenth session of the Conference will provide, *inter alia*, an important opportunity for the United Nations system and the international community to engage in a collective reflection on development so as to reach a consensus on development strategies in an increasingly interdependent world by applying lessons of the past to making globalization an effective instrument for the development of all countries and all people, through which the international community should undertake a rigorous and balanced review of the policy and institutional framework for global trade and finance, and that, in this context, the Conference will provide member States with an opportunity to take stock of and review the major international economic initiatives and developments, in particular those that have taken place since the ninth session of the Conference, and urges the Conference to consider the strategies and policies that are most likely to ensure the successful integration of all countries concerned, particularly the developing countries, into the world economy on an equitable basis and to avoid the risk of further marginalization;[77]

9. *Reiterates* the importance of continued trade liberalization in developed and developing countries, including in sectors of export interest to developing countries, through, *inter alia*:

(*a*) Substantial reductions of tariffs, the rolling back of tariff peaks and the removal of tariff escalation;

(*b*) The elimination of trade-distorting policies, protectionist practices and non-tariff barriers in international trade relations;

(*c*) Ensuring that resort to anti-dumping duties, countervailing duties, phytosanitary regulations and technical standards is subjected to effective multilateral surveillance so that such measures respect and are consistent with multilateral rules and obligations and are not used for protectionist purposes;

(*d*) The improvement and renewal, by preference-giving countries, of their Generalized System of Preferences schemes with the objective of integrating developing countries, especially the least developed countries, into the international trading system and of finding ways and means to ensure more effective utilization of the Generalized System of Preferences schemes, and in this context reiterates its original principles, namely, non-discrimination, universality, burden-sharing and non-reciprocity;

10. *Also reiterates* that it is an ethical imperative for the international community to arrest and reverse the marginalization of the least developed countries and to promote their expeditious integration into the world economy and that all countries should work together towards further enhanced market access for exports from the least developed countries within the context of supporting their own efforts at capacity-building; welcomes the initiatives taken by the World Trade Organization in cooperation with other organizations in the implementation of the Plan of Action for the Least Developed Countries adopted at its first Ministerial Conference, held at Singapore from 9 to 13 December 1996, including through effective follow-up to the High-level Meeting on Integrated Initiatives for Least Developed Countries' Trade Development, held at Geneva on 27 and 28 October 1997, taking note of the proposals adopted by the Least Developed Countries' Coordinating Workshop held at Sun City, South Africa, from 21 to 25 June 1999; recognizes that the full implementation of the Plan of Action requires further and expeditious progress towards duty-free imports from the least developed countries; invites the relevant international organizations to provide the enhanced technical assistance required to help to strengthen the supply capacity of the least developed countries so as to help them to take the fullest possible advantage of trading opportunities arising from globalization and liberalization; and welcomes the holding of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at Brussels in 2001;

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[77] See TD/B/EX(20)/L.1.

11. *Stresses* the urgent need to facilitate the integration of the countries of Africa into the world economy, and in this context welcomes the action-oriented agenda for the development of Africa contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[14] and endorses the call, contained in the ministerial communiqué adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 8 July 1998,[15] for continued efforts to enhance market access for products of export interest to African economies and support for their efforts at diversification and building of supply capacity, and in this context requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to enhance its contribution to the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,[16] taking into account the agreed conclusions of the Trade and Development Board on Africa;[17]

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the initiation by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in the areas falling within its mandate, of the preparatory process for the final review and appraisal of the implementation of the New Agenda to be held in 2002, in particular focusing on market access, diversification and supply capacity, resource flows and external debt, foreign direct and portfolio investment and access to technology, and in this context also requests the Secretary-General to submit a report, based on the recommendations of the Trade and Development Board on Africa, on measures taken in this regard, with a special emphasis on African trade issues, for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session under the agenda item entitled "International trade and development";

13. *Stresses* the need to give special attention, within the context of international cooperation on trade and development issues, to the implementation of the many international development commitments geared to meeting the special development needs and problems of small island developing States and of landlocked developing countries and to recognize that those developing countries that provide transit services need adequate support in maintaining and improving their transit infrastructure;

14. *Endorses* the relevant provisions adopted at the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[18] and in this context reiterates the need for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to enhance its contribution to the implementation of the Programme of Action;[19]

15. *Reiterates* the importance of the effective application by all members of the World Trade Organization of all provisions of the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations,[20] taking into account the specific interests of developing countries so as to maximize economic growth and development benefits for all, and the need for the effective implementation of the special provisions in the multilateral trade agreements and related ministerial decisions in favour of developing countries, particularly making operational the previously agreed special and differential provisions, including the strengthening of these concepts, taking into account the changing realities of world trade and of globalization, and urges Governments and concerned international organizations to apply effectively the Ministerial Decisions on Measures in Favour of Least Developed Countries and on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least Developed and Net Food-importing Developing Countries;[20]

16. *Recognizes* that it is important that the momentum towards increased trade liberalization, particularly as regards areas and products of interest to developing countries, be maintained and that further liberalization be sufficiently broad-based to respond to the range of interests and concerns of all members, within the framework of the World Trade Organization, and in this regard welcomes the activities of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development aimed at assisting developing countries in developing a positive agenda for future multilateral trade negotiations, and invites the Conference to continue to provide analytical support and technical assistance, including capacity-building activities, to those countries for their effective participation in the negotiations;

17. *Invites* members of the international community to consider the interests of non-members of the World Trade Organization in the context of trade liberalization;

18. *Invites* the international financial institutions to ensure that, in their development cooperation activities with developing countries, the obligations of the latter with regard to their development policies, strategies and programmes in trade and trade-related areas are consistent with their commitments under the framework of rules agreed upon within the multilateral trading system;

19. *Emphasizes* the importance of the strengthening of, and the attainment of greater universality by, the international trading system and of accelerating the process directed towards accession to the World Trade Organization of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and also

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[14] A/52/871–S/1998/318, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1998*, document S/1998/318.

[15] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/53/3), chap. IV, para. 5.

[16] Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

[17] A/54/15 (Part V), chap. I, sect. C, agreed conclusions 458 (XLVI). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 15*.

[18] See resolution S-22/2.

[19] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[20] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

emphasizes the necessity for Governments that are members of the World Trade Organization and relevant international organizations to assist non-members of the World Trade Organization so as to facilitate their efforts with respect to accession in an expeditious and transparent manner, on the basis of undertaking balanced World Trade Organization rights and obligations, and for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization to provide the technical assistance, within their mandates, that will contribute to the rapid and full integration of those countries into the multilateral trading system;

20. *Stresses* the need for improved measures to address the volatility of short-term capital flows as well as the effects of financial crisis on the international trading system and the development prospects of developing countries and the countries affected by such crisis, emphasizing that keeping all markets open and maintaining continued growth in world trade are key elements in overcoming such a crisis, and in this context rejects the use of any protectionist measures; at a broader level, there is a need for greater coherence between the development objectives agreed to by the international community and the functioning of the international trading and financial system, and in this context calls for close cooperation between the organizations of the United Nations system and the multilateral trade and financial institutions, with the participation of their secretariats and the States Members of the United Nations and observer States;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in scheduling and organizing mandated events on trade and trade-related issues, to promote complementarity in the work of the relevant bodies of the United Nations system and with other international organizations, with the participation of their secretariats and the States Members of the United Nations and observer States, as appropriate, bearing in mind the mandate of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

22. *Recognizes* the importance of open regional economic integration in the creation of new opportunities for expanding trade and investment, stresses the importance of those initiatives being in conformity with World Trade Organization rules, where applicable, and, bearing in mind the primacy of the multilateral trading system, affirms that regional trade agreements should be outward-oriented and supportive of the multilateral trading system, and in this context invites Governments and intergovernmental and multilateral institutions to continue to provide support to economic integration among developing countries as well as among countries with economies in transition;

23. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to identify and analyse the implications for development of issues relevant to investment, as well as to identify ways and means to promote foreign direct and portfolio investment directed to all developing countries, taking into account their interests, in particular to those most in need, as well as to those countries with economies in transition with similar needs, and bearing in mind the work undertaken by other organizations, including the regional commissions;

24. *Emphasizes* that the dispute settlement mechanism of the World Trade Organization is a key element with regard to the integrity and credibility of the multilateral trading system and the full realization of the benefits anticipated from the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations;

25. *Strongly emphasizes* the need for technical assistance, including legal assistance, to developing countries, through, *inter alia*, the newly established Advisory Centre on World Trade Organization Law and other mechanisms, to enable those countries to take the fullest possible advantage of the dispute settlement mechanism of the World Trade Organization, based on multilaterally agreed rules and regulations, and also in this context emphasizes that it is important for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to strengthen its technical assistance to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States in this area;

26. *Notes* the increasing importance and application of electronic commerce in international trade and the need to strengthen the capacities of developing countries to participate effectively in electronic commerce, and urges the organizations of the United Nations system, within their mandates and in cooperation with other relevant bodies, with the participation of their secretariats and the States Members of the United Nations and observer States, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Telecommunication Union, the International Trade Centre and the regional commissions, to continue to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and, in this regard, emphasizes the need for analysis of the fiscal, legal and regulatory aspects of electronic commerce as well as its implications for the trade and development prospects of developing countries;

27. *Stresses* the importance of assisting developing countries and interested countries with economies in transition in improving the efficiency of trade-supporting services, *inter alia*, through the elimination of procedural barriers and by greater use of trade facilitating mechanisms, particularly in the areas of transport, customs, banking and insurance, and business information, especially in the case of small and medium-sized enterprises, and in this respect invites the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, within its mandate, in collaboration with other relevant bodies of the United Nations, including the regional commissions, to continue to assist these countries in these areas;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to provide, in collaboration with other relevant bodies, substantive input on the role of information and communications technology in trade, finance, investment and related areas to the Economic and Social Council at the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2000;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution and the developments in the multilateral trading system.

RESOLUTION 54/199

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/585/Add.3 and Corr.1)

54/199. Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions of its resolutions 44/214 of 22 December 1989, 46/212 of 20 December 1991, 48/169 of 21 December 1993, 50/97 of 20 December 1995 and 52/183 of 18 December 1997 and the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community,[21] as well as the relevant parts of the Agenda for Development,[22]

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness and isolation from world markets, and prohibitive transit costs and risks impose serious constraints on the overall socio-economic development efforts of the landlocked developing countries,

Recognizing also that sixteen of the landlocked developing countries are also classified by the United Nations as least developed countries and that their geographical situation is an added constraint on their overall ability to cope with the challenges of development,

Recognizing further that most transit countries are themselves developing countries facing serious economic problems, including the lack of adequate infrastructure in the transport sector,

Noting the importance of continuing to strengthen the existing international support measures with a view to addressing further the problems of landlocked developing countries,

Emphasizing the importance of further strengthening effective and close cooperation and collaboration between landlocked developing countries and their transit neighbours, at regional, subregional and bilateral levels, *inter alia*, through cooperative arrangements in developing efficient transit transport systems in landlocked and transit developing countries, and noting the important role of the activities of the regional commissions in this regard,

Welcoming the holding of the fourth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions, in New York from 24 to 26 August 1999,

Expressing its appreciation to donor partners for participating in the fourth Meeting of Governmental Experts and for the generous contribution that facilitated the participation of landlocked developing countries,

1. *Welcomes* the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the progress report of the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries;[23]

2. *Also welcomes* the agreed conclusions and recommendations for future action adopted by the fourth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions;[24]

3. *Reaffirms* the right of access of landlocked countries, including landlocked developing countries, to and from the sea and freedom of transit through the territory of transit States by all means of transport, in accordance with international law;

4. *Also reaffirms* that transit countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for landlocked countries, including landlocked developing countries, in no way infringe upon their legitimate interests;

5. *Calls upon* the landlocked developing countries and their transit neighbours to implement measures to strengthen further their cooperative and collaborative efforts to deal with transit transport issues, including bilateral and, as appropriate, subregional cooperation, *inter alia*, by improving the physical infrastructure and non-physical aspects of transit transport systems, strengthening and concluding, where appropriate, bilateral and subregional agreements to govern transit transport operations, developing joint ventures in the area of transit transport and strengthening institutions and human resources dealing with transit transport, and, in this respect, notes that South-South cooperation also plays an important role in this field;

6. *Appeals once again* to all States, international organizations and financial institutions to implement, as a matter of urgency and priority, the specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries agreed upon in the resolutions and declarations adopted by the General Assembly, the outcomes of recent major United Nations conferences relevant to landlocked developing countries and the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community[21] and to take fully into account the agreed recommendations and conclusions of the fourth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions;

7. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts being made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in collaboration with donor countries and institutions, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the regional commissions and relevant subregional institutions, to organize specific consultative groups, as appropriate, when requested by the landlocked and transit developing countries concerned, to identify priority

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[21] TD/B/42(1)/11-TD/B/LDC/AC.1/7, annex I.

[22] Resolution 51/240, annex.

[23] A/54/529.

[24] Ibid., sect. II.

areas for action at the national and subregional levels and draw up action programmes;

8. *Invites* donor countries, the United Nations Development Programme and multilateral financial and development institutions to provide landlocked and transit developing countries with appropriate financial and technical assistance in the form of grants or concessional loans for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes and improved communications, and to promote subregional, regional and interregional projects and programmes, and, in this regard, also to consider, *inter alia*, improving the availability and optimal use of the different transport modes and intermodal efficiency along transport corridors;

9. *Emphasizes* that assistance for the improvement of transit transport facilities and services should be integrated into the overall economic development strategies of the landlocked and transit developing countries and that donor assistance should consequently take into account the requirements for the long-term restructuring of the economies of the landlocked developing countries;

10. *Notes* the important role that the simplification, harmonization and standardization of transit procedures and documentation as well as the application of information technologies have played in enhancing the efficiency of transit systems, and calls upon the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in cooperation with other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, to continue to assist landlocked and transit developing countries in these areas, in accordance with their mandates;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to convene in 2001, within the overall level of resources for the biennium 2000–2001, another meeting of governmental experts from landlocked and transit developing countries and representatives of donor countries and financial and development institutions, including relevant regional and subregional economic organizations and commissions, to review progress in the development of transit transport systems, including sectoral aspects and transit transportation costs, with a view to exploring the possibility of formulating necessary action-oriented measures;

12. *Requests* the fifth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions to consider a proposal made at the fourth Meeting to convene in 2003 a ministerial meeting on transit transport issues so as to give appropriate emphasis to the problems of landlocked and transit developing countries;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to seek voluntary contributions to ensure the participation of representatives of landlocked and transit developing countries at the meeting referred to in paragraph 11 above;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to formulating international policies and measures dealing with the special problems of landlocked developing countries, *inter alia*, through technical cooperation programmes, and urges the Conference, *inter alia*, to keep under constant review the evolution of transit transport infrastructure facilities, institutions and services, monitor the implementation of agreed measures, *inter alia*, by means of a case study as necessary, promote regional and subregional cooperation, build up consensus on cooperative arrangements, mobilize international support measures, collaborate in all relevant initiatives, including those of the private sector and non-governmental organizations, and serve as a focal point for cross-regional issues of landlocked developing countries;

15. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to take appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the activities called for in the present resolution, and to provide, in accordance with resolution 52/183, the Office of the Special Coordinator for Least Developed, Landlocked and Island Developing Countries of the Conference with adequate resources so as to allow it to implement effectively its mandate to continue to support landlocked developing countries;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, together with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution and submit it to the Trade and Development Board and to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

RESOLUTION 54/200

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 107 to 3, with 46 abstentions,[25] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/585/Add.3 and Corr.1)

54/200. Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[26] which states, *inter alia*, that no State may use or encourage the use of unilateral economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

Bearing in mind the general principles governing the international trading system and trade policies for development contained in relevant resolutions, rules and provisions of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization,

Recalling its resolutions 44/215 of 22 December 1989, 46/210 of 20 December 1991, 48/168 of 21 December 1993, 50/96 of 20 December 1995 and 52/181 of 18 December 1997,

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[25] For details, see annex II.

[26] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

Gravely concerned that the use of unilateral coercive economic measures adversely affects the economy and development efforts of developing countries in particular and has a general negative impact on international economic cooperation and on worldwide efforts to move towards a non-discriminatory and open multilateral trading system,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[27]

2. *Urges* the international community to adopt urgent and effective measures to eliminate the use of unilateral coercive economic measures against developing countries that are not authorized by relevant organs of the United Nations or are inconsistent with the principles of international law as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and that contravene the basic principles of the multilateral trading system;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the imposition of measures of this nature and to study the impact of such measures on the affected countries, including the impact on trade and development;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/201

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/585/Add.4)

54/201. Science and technology for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the continuing validity of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development,[28] adopted in 1979, its resolution 52/184 of 18 December 1997 and all other relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, as well as the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and their five-year reviews concerning science and technology for development,

Taking note of those outcomes, including the Science Agenda - Framework for Action, adopted by the World Conference on Science, held at Budapest from 26 June to 1 July 1999,[29]

Noting that issues related to utilizing science and technology for development were dealt with in the "Partners for Development" summit held at Lyon, France, from 9 to 12 November 1998 under the auspices of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

Reaffirming the Common Vision on the future of science and technology for development[30] as approved by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its fourth session, which stated that science and technology should be considered the common heritage of mankind and should be shared,

Stressing that the pace of globalization is influenced in large measure by the development of science and technology and that developing countries should be assisted in becoming well equipped with the knowledge of science and technology as well as the practical skills associated with technology management so as to enable them to benefit from the opportunities offered by globalization and to avoid the risk of their marginalization in the process of globalization,

Recognizing the importance of establishing and strengthening partnership and networking among public and private sectors and academic institutions from the South and the North to build and strengthen the technological capabilities and skills needed for developing countries to compete in the international markets,

Recognizing also that information technologies are important requisites for research, planning, development and decision-making in science and technology and that they have far-reaching implications for society,

Noting the work being undertaken by the Commission in its work programme for Member States, especially the developing countries, and its work with some countries with economies in transition, and reaffirming its unique role as a global forum for examining science and technology questions, improving the understanding of science and technology policies and formulating recommendations and guidelines on science and technology matters within the United Nations system in relation to development,

Recognizing the need for adequate resources, including through provision of new and additional resources from all sources, to be devoted to fostering science and technology for development,

Recognizing also the need to address the obstacles faced by developing countries in accessing new technologies, while taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights and the special needs of developing countries,

Recognizing further the need for dissemination of research knowledge and sharing of technologies and expertise in the field of biotechnology, in particular in the areas of agriculture, pharmaceuticals and health care, that could benefit mankind,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[31]

1. *Reaffirms* the important role that the United Nations should play in the promotion of cooperation in science and technology, as one of its priorities, and in the enhancement of support and assistance to developing countries in their efforts

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[27] A/54/486.

[28] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, Vienna, 20–31 August 1979* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.I.21 and corrigenda), chap. VII.

[29] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirtieth Session, Paris, 26 October–17 November 1999*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*, resolution 20, annex II.

[30] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 11* (E/1999/31), chap. IV, para. 22.

[31] A/54/270 and Corr.1.

to achieve sustainable development, and emphasizes the need to enhance the capability of the relevant United Nations organizations, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to address relevant issues in the field of science and technology;

2. *Takes note* of Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/61 of 30 July 1999 and Council decision 274 of 28 July 1999 in which the Council approved the provisional agenda and substantive theme for the fifth session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development;

3. *Recognizes* the role of the Commission in coordinating the activities of the United Nations system in the area of science and technology for development, emphasizes the importance of the activities that are to be pursued within the framework of the Commission, including a broad spectrum of new global challenges in science and technology, and encourages support to these undertakings;

4. *Also recognizes* the importance for developing countries of having access to science and technology so as to enhance their productivity and competitiveness in the world market, and stresses the need to promote, facilitate and finance, as appropriate, access to and transfer of environmentally sound technologies and the corresponding know-how, in particular to the developing countries, on concessional, preferential and favourable terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights and the special needs of developing countries;

5. *Further recognizes* the role of Governments in science and technology for development, in particular in providing appropriate regulatory frameworks and incentives for the development of science and technology;

6. *Stresses* the role of Governments and international development institutions in facilitating the transfer of privately owned technologies on concessional terms, as mutually agreed, to developing countries, especially the least developed countries;

7. *Recognizes* the role of partnership among the public and private sectors, academic research centres and international funding agencies in science and technology for development, in particular in the transfer, creation and development of science and technology capabilities;

8. *Reaffirms* that capacity-building in science and technology in developing countries should remain a priority issue in the United Nations agenda, and urges that international cooperation efforts be intensified and strengthened towards endogenous capacity-building in developing countries in science and technology, including their capacity to utilize scientific and technological developments from abroad as well as to modify and adapt them to suit local conditions;

9. *Recognizes* the role of the public and private sectors, industry and academia in science and technology for development, in particular in the transfer and development of science and technology capabilities;

10. *Stresses* the importance of facilitating the transfer of technology to developing countries, in particular in knowledge-intensive sectors, with the objective of enhancing technological capacities, capabilities and skills in developing countries;

11. *Recognizes* the need for Governments and regional and international bodies to take measures to ensure better access to and participation in scientific and technological areas for women, especially where they are not represented or are under-represented, bearing in mind the important role that they can play in further developing innovation and methodologies for science and technology;

12. *Emphasizes* the role of partnership and networking mechanisms for the integration of developing countries and countries with economies in transition into the world economy, in particular by strengthening national capacity-building, promoting market access across a large number of sectors and industries, disseminating new business and management cultures, especially among small and medium-sized enterprises, and expanding opportunities for them to leverage their own research and development activities;

13. *Reaffirms* the need to fulfil the commitments on the provision of financial resources and transfer of technology contained in chapter 34 of Agenda 21,[32] the outcome of the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly and the Agenda for Development;[33]

14. *Recognizes* that, while applications of agricultural biotechnology in developing countries, if associated with the capacity to ensure their compatibility with human health and ecosystems, provide viable opportunities for improving productivity and increasing production capacity in the agricultural sector, a large number of developing countries have limited access to such technologies and face a number of impediments to their development of biotechnology;

15. *Also recognizes* the need for studying the impact of new biotechnologies on human health, the welfare and livelihood of the farmers, and poverty in developing countries;

16. *Calls* for safe biotechnology that will, *inter alia*, foster crop reproduction and enhance the development of developing countries;

17. *Reaffirms* that the substantive theme for the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development during the inter-sessional period 1999–2001 will be "National capacity-building in biotechnology", with particular attention to agriculture and the agro-industry, health and the environment; the theme will include human resource development through basic science education, research and development, as well as their interdisciplinary aspects; the transfer, commercialization and diffusion of technology; increasing public awareness and participation in science policy-making; and bioethics, biosafety, biodiversity and the legal and regulatory matters affecting these issues to ensure equitable treatment;

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[32] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[33] Resolution 51/240, annex.

18. *Stresses* the necessity of promoting linkages and partnership among public and private sectors and centres of excellence and networks in developed and developing countries and countries with economies in transition with the objective of strengthening national research capability and capacity in biotechnology in developing countries;

19. *Also stresses* the need to establish science and technology as a cross-cutting theme within the work of the United Nations, particularly through effective and better coordination, including of international cooperation in technology assessment, monitoring and forecasting, information and communication technologies, partnership and networking for innovative and new technologies, biotechnology and providing an environment conducive to the development of new environmentally sound technologies, and calls upon United Nations organizations, funds and programmes to work in a coordinated manner to develop a catalogue of proven technologies to enable developing countries to make effective choices in state-of-the-art technologies;

20. *Encourages* the United Nations system to ensure, where appropriate in its operational activities, the provision for the transfer of appropriate technical know-how and technological skills to developing countries;

21. *Reaffirms* the need for adequate financial resources on a continuous and assured basis to foster science and technology for development, in particular to promote endogenous capacity-building in developing countries in accordance with their priorities;

22. *Emphasizes* the need to reduce regulatory limitations on the transfer of technology, particularly to developing countries, and stresses the importance of identifying barriers to and unjustifiable restrictions on the transfer of technologies, with a view to addressing such constraints while creating specific incentives, fiscal and otherwise, for the transfer of new and innovative technologies;

23. *Recognizes* the importance of cooperation among developing countries in the field of science and technology, building on their complementarities, and the need to advance further such cooperation through the establishment or strengthening of national technology and information centres in developing countries and their networking on subregional, regional, interregional and global levels to promote technology research, training and dissemination as well as joint projects in developing countries, urges the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and other relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and programmes to provide continued and enhanced support through technical assistance and financing for such efforts, calls for further cooperation between centres of excellence, universities and research institutions, and urges the international community to support such initiatives, where appropriate, through financial and technical assistance;

24. *Also recognizes* the importance of maintaining mutually beneficial scientific and technological cooperation between and among developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

25. *Invites* the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to provide assistance and to promote cooperation in the areas of partnership and networking, biotechnology, and information and communication technologies, including in the design and implementation of national strategies on such technologies or mechanisms;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly for consideration at its fifty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council, without prejudice to the periodicity of this item, proposals for strengthening the coordination of mechanisms on the Commission on Science and Technology for Development within the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in order to ensure coordination of the various efforts and activities in the area of new and innovative technologies, in particular information and communication technologies, and their applications, such as in electronic commerce, with the objective of promoting complementarity of activities within the United Nations system;

27. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/202

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/585/Add.5)

54/202. Enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problem of developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/164 of 16 December 1996, 52/185 of 18 December 1997 and 53/175 of 15 December 1998 on enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problems of developing countries,

Reaffirming the urgent need for further implementation in an effective, equitable and development-oriented way of existing mechanisms for the treatment of the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries in order to help them to exit from the rescheduling process and unsustainable debt burdens,

Welcoming and emphasizing the importance of the efforts of debtor countries, despite the great social cost often involved, in pursuing economic reform, stabilization and structural adjustment programmes aimed at achieving stability, raising domestic savings and investments, attaining competitiveness to take advantage of market access opportunities where available, reducing inflation, improving economic efficiency and addressing the social aspects of development, including the eradication of poverty as well as the development of social safety nets for the vulnerable and poorer strata of their populations, and encouraging them to continue in these efforts,

Welcoming the debt initiative launched by the Group of Seven major industrialized countries at its meeting held in Cologne, Germany, from 18 to 20 June 1999, and the recent decisions of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank on the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative, which should provide deeper, broader and faster debt relief, *Noting with great concern* that one of the major obstacles to the speedy implementation of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative is financial constraints, stressing the need for fair, equitable and transparent burden-sharing among the international public creditor community and other donor countries and in this regard stressing that the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Trust Fund must be adequately funded,

Welcoming the actions taken by creditor countries within the framework of the Paris Club and by some creditor countries through the cancellation and equivalent relief of bilateral debts,

Noting with concern the continuing debt and debt-servicing problems of heavily indebted developing countries as constituting an element adversely affecting their development efforts and economic growth, and stressing the importance of alleviating once and for all, where applicable, the onerous debt and debt-service burden with the aim of attaining a sustainable level of debt and debt service on the basis of an effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable approach, and, where appropriate, addressing the full stock of debt of the poorest and most indebted developing countries as a matter of priority,

Noting with great concern the continuing high debt burden borne by most African countries and least developed countries as exacerbated, *inter alia*, by the declining trend in many commodity prices,

Noting also with great concern that the recent financial crisis has aggravated the debt-service burdens of many developing countries, including low-income and middle-income countries, particularly in the context of meeting their international debt and debt-servicing obligations in a timely fashion despite serious external and domestic financial constraints,

Noting with concern that a growing number of highly indebted middle-income developing countries are facing difficulties in meeting their external debt-servicing obligations, owing, *inter alia*, to liquidity constraints,

Stressing that effective management of the debt of developing countries, including middle-income countries, is an important factor, among others, in their sustained economic growth and in the smooth functioning of the world economy,

Noting with great concern that the debt overhang of the heavily indebted poor countries still constitutes a problem hampering their development, and in this context emphasizing the importance of the full and speedy implementation of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative,

Stressing the need for evolving debt strategies to continue to address the debt sustainability of developing countries, and in this connection stressing also the urgent need for full and swift implementation of initiatives that will further assist developing countries, in particular the poorest and most heavily indebted countries, especially in Africa, in their efforts to improve their debt situation, in view of their continued very high levels of total debt stock and debt-service burdens,

Stressing also the need for continuing global economic growth and a continuing supportive international economic environment with regard to, *inter alia*, terms of trade, commodity prices, improved market access, trade practices, access to technology, exchange rates and international interest rates, and noting the continued need for resources for sustained economic growth and sustainable development of the developing countries, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and the outcomes of recent United Nations conferences,

Noting that mechanisms such as debt rescheduling and debt conversions alone are not sufficient to resolve all the problems relating to long-term debt sustainability,

Stressing the importance of a sound enabling environment for effective debt management,

Recognizing those efforts of the international community that contribute to effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries, and emphasizing that the international community should consider further appropriate measures to that end,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on recent developments in the debt situation of developing countries;[illegible]

2. *Recognizes* that effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to external debt and debt-service burdens of developing countries can contribute substantially to the strengthening of the global economy and to the efforts of developing countries to achieve sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and the outcomes of recent United Nations conferences;

3. *Also recognizes* that the Cologne debt initiative and the recent decisions of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund on the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative contribute to achieving durable solutions to the external debt and debt-service burdens of the heavily indebted poor developing countries;

4. *Reiterates* the call for industrialized countries that have not yet contributed to the Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility (now renamed Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility) and the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Trust Fund to come forward immediately with their contribution;

5. *Notes* the agreement on the elements of a financing plan for multilateral development banks, and in this regard stresses the urgency of providing new and additional resources to secure adequate funding for an overall financing plan for the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative, including in particular the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Trust Fund in the context of equitable and transparent burden-sharing that would permit the Initiative to be launched and the delivery of debt relief to begin for those countries requiring retroactive relief and those expected to reach their decision points over the near term, without compromising the financing made available through concessional windows such

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[illegible] A/54/370.

as the International Development Association, and in this regard stresses the importance of applying the enhanced Initiative in those eligible countries that have already reached their decision and completion points within the framework of the previous Initiative;

6. *Also notes* that the so-called floating completion points approach offers the opportunity to shorten the time-frame for implementation of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative to countries that meet the necessary conditions so that debt relief can be provided faster than under the original heavily indebted poor countries framework, and in this regard urges speedy implementation of the approach and welcomes the flexibility that the enhanced Initiative provides in terms of interim assistance and front-loading of the delivery of debt to qualifying eligible countries;

7. *Stresses* the importance of implementing the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative flexibly, including shortening the interval between the decision and completion points, taking due account of the policy performance of the countries concerned in a transparent manner and with the full involvement of the debtor countries;

8. *Notes* that there is now a possibility of expanding eligibility under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative to thirty-six countries, and in this regard looks forward to an early review of the list of heavily indebted poor countries;

9. *Stresses* the importance of considering increased flexibility with regard to Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative eligibility criteria, including continuously evaluating and actively monitoring the implication of existing terms of the eligibility criteria so as to ensure sufficient coverage of heavily indebted poor countries, increased flexibility being, in this context, particularly important for known borderline cases and countries in post-conflict situations, in respect of, *inter alia*, avoiding delays in the establishment of a track record of economic performance caused by temporary setbacks due to external shocks in order to help them to exit from the rescheduling process and from unsustainable debt burdens;

10. *Invites* the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to continue to strengthen the transparency and integrity of debt sustainability analysis, and encourages the further commissioning of relevant independent studies on the debt problem of developing countries;

11. *Welcomes* the proposed framework for strengthening the link between debt relief and poverty eradication, and stresses the need for its flexible implementation, recognizing that, while the poverty reduction strategy paper should be in place by the decision point, on a transitional basis the decision point could be reached without agreement on a poverty paper, but that in all cases demonstrable progress in implementing a poverty reduction strategy would be required by the completion point;

12. *Emphasizes* that poverty reduction programmes as linked to the implementation of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative must be country-driven and in accordance with the priorities and programmes of countries eligible under the Initiative, and stresses the role of civil society in this regard;

13. *Stresses* the need for debt-relief initiatives to be guided by enhanced transparency and predictability, involving debtor countries in any review and analysis that is conducted during the adjustment period;

14. *Welcomes* the decision of those countries that have cancelled bilateral official debt, and urges creditor countries that have not done so to consider full cancellation of bilateral official debts of countries eligible under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative and, as appropriate, action to address the needs of post-conflict countries, in particular those with protracted arrears, developing countries affected by serious natural disasters and poor countries with very low social and human development indicators, including the possibility of debt-relief measures through, *inter alia*, the cancellation and equivalent relief of bilateral official debt, and stresses the importance of building coalitions with civil society organizations and non-governmental organizations in all countries to ensure in the shortest possible time the implementation of pronouncements on debt forgiveness in order that countries eligible under the Initiative may quickly benefit from such pronouncements;

15. *Notes* that the multilateral debt-relief funds can have a positive impact in respect of assisting Governments in safeguarding or increasing expenditures on priority social sectors, and encourages donors to continue efforts in this regard in the context of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative;

16. *Stresses* the principle that funding of any debt relief should not affect adversely the support for other development activities in favour of developing countries, including the level of funding for the United Nations funds and programmes, and in this regard welcomes the decision of the Joint Ministerial Committee of the Boards of Governors of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund on the Transfer of Real Resources to Developing Countries (Development Committee) that financing of debt relief should not compromise the financing made available through concessional windows such as the International Development Association, and expresses its appreciation that certain developed countries have reached or even gone beyond the agreed target for official development assistance of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product, while at the same time calling upon other developed countries to fulfil this target for official development assistance as soon as possible;

17. *Expresses its appreciation* for the action taken by creditor countries of the Paris Club in December 1998 with regard to the debts of countries affected by hurricane Mitch, and in this regard reiterates the need for relief promises to come to fruition within the shortest possible time-frames in order to free the requisite resources for national reconstruction efforts, welcomes the decision of various countries to address the debt situation of Honduras and Nicaragua, including through cancellation of their bilateral official debt, and invites others to take similar action;

18. *Encourages* the international creditor community to consider appropriate measures in the case of countries with a very high level of debt overhang, including in particular low-income African countries, in order to make an appropriate and consistent contribution to the common objective of debt sustainability;

19. *Recognizes* the difficulties of highly indebted middle-income developing countries and other highly indebted middle-income countries in meeting their external debt and debt-servicing obligations, and notes the worsening situation in some of them in the context, *inter alia*, of higher liquidity constraints, which may require debt treatment including, as appropriate, debt-reduction measures;

20. *Calls* for concerted national and international action to address effectively debt problems of middle-income developing countries with a view to resolving their potential long-term debt-sustainability problems through various debt-treatment measures, including, as appropriate, orderly mechanisms for debt reduction, and encourages all creditor and debtor countries to utilize to the fullest extent possible, where appropriate, all existing mechanisms for debt reduction;

21. *Recognizes* the efforts made by indebted developing countries with regard to fulfilling their debt-servicing commitments despite the high social cost incurred, and in this regard encourages private creditors and, in particular, commercial banks to continue their initiatives and efforts to address the commercial debt problems of middle-income developing countries, in particular those affected by the financial crisis;

22. *Also recognizes* the need to continue to work with all creditors in order to facilitate continued access to international capital markets, and, in the event that extraordinary circumstances preclude a country from temporarily meeting its debt-servicing commitments, urges Governments to work with creditors in a transparent and timely fashion towards a workable resolution of the repayment problem;

23. *Further recognizes* the need to make the maximum use of existing debt-relief measures, including existing facilities to provide relief through various debt-conversion programmes, such as debt-equity swaps, debt-for-nature swaps, debt-for-child-development swaps and other debt-for-development efforts, as well as to support measures in favour of the most vulnerable segments of the societies of those countries and to develop techniques of debt conversion to be applied to social development programmes and projects, in conformity with the priorities of the World Summit for Social Development;[35]

24. *Stresses* that debt relief should contribute to development objectives, including poverty reduction, and in this regard urges countries to direct those resources freed through debt relief, in particular through debt cancellation and reduction, towards these objectives;

25. *Notes*, while recognizing the benefits of the liberalization of international capital flows, the adverse impact of the volatility of short-term capital flows on exchange rates, interest rates and the debt situation of developing countries, and stresses the need for coherence in implementing policies and for the liberalization of capital accounts in an orderly, gradual and well-sequenced manner to keep pace with the strengthening of the ability of countries to sustain its consequences so as to mitigate the adverse impact of such volatility;

26. *Also notes* that debt relief alone will not lead to poverty reduction, and in this regard emphasizes the need for an enabling environment as well as for an efficient, transparent and accountable public service and administration, and also emphasizes the urgency of securing an adequate level of funding support for debt relief, in particular the agreement for an overall financing plan for the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative;

27. *Stresses* the need to strengthen the institutional capacity of developing countries in debt management, calls upon the international community to support the efforts towards this end, and in this regard stresses the importance of initiatives such as the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System[36] and the debt-management capacity-building programme;

28. *Reaffirms* the Mid-term Global Review of Progress towards the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s,[37] in particular the actions required in favour of those countries concerning their official bilateral, commercial and multilateral debts;

29. *Stresses* the need for new financial flows to debtor developing countries from all sources, in addition to debt-relief measures that include debt and debt-service reduction, and urges creditor countries and multilateral financial institutions to continue to extend concessional financial assistance, in particular to the least developed countries, in order to support the implementation by the developing countries of economic reforms and stabilization and structural adjustment programmes that will enable them to extricate themselves from the debt overhang and attract new investment and to assist them in achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and the outcomes of recent United Nations conferences, and the eradication of poverty;

30. *Notes* the importance of providing adequate resources for debt-relief measures in the light of the adverse effects of the international financial crisis on the mobilization of both domestic and external resources for the development of the developing countries, including those in Africa and the least developed countries;

31. *Stresses* the importance of trade to development, poverty alleviation and sustained global economic recovery, and in this regard emphasizes that multilateral trade

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[35] See *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8).

[36] The Debt Management and Financial Analysis System is a computerized system developed by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition in developing appropriate administrative, institutional and legal structures for effective foreign and domestic public debt management. By June 1999, the system had been installed in the debt offices of fifty countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean.

[37] Resolution 50/103, annex.

negotiations should deliver early and substantial benefits to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, as well as improve market access and further reduce barriers to trade;

32. *Also stresses* the importance for developing countries of continuing their efforts to promote a favourable environment for attracting foreign investment, thereby promoting economic growth and sustainable development, so as to favour their exit from debt and debt-servicing problems, and further stresses the need for the international community to promote a conducive external environment through, *inter alia*, improved market access, stabilization of exchange rates, effective stewardship of international interest rates, increased resource flows, access to international financial markets, flow of financial resources and improved access to technology for developing countries;

33. *Calls upon* the international community, including the United Nations system, and invites the Bretton Woods institutions, as well as the private sector, to take appropriate measures and actions for the implementation of the commitments, agreements and decisions of the major United Nations conferences and summits organized since the beginning of the 1990s on development, as well as of the outcomes of review processes, in particular those related to the question of the external debt problem of developing countries;

34. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in his report a comprehensive and substantive analysis of the external debt and debt-servicing problems of the developing countries.

RESOLUTION 54/203

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/586)

54/203. Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries,[38] the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade,[39] the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s[40] and its resolutions 52/208 of 18 December 1997 and 53/177 of 15 December 1998, and taking note of Economic and Social Council decision 1999/270 of 28 July 1999 concerning the implementation and coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system of initiatives on African development,

Recalling also the Declaration on Africa's Industrialization, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-third ordinary session, held at Harare from 2 to 4 June 1997,[41] and the Plan of Action for the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization, adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry at its thirteenth meeting, held at Accra in May 1997,[42] and taking note of the final communiqué of the first meeting of the Patrons Group of Heads of State and Government of the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization, adopted at Algiers on 13 July 1999,[43] and the Conference on Industrial Partnerships and Investment in Africa, held at Dakar on 20 and 21 October 1999,

Taking note of the statement of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade, held at Algiers in September 1999, to the Third Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization and resolution 2 (XIV) on the African common position on globalization, adopted by the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, held at Dakar on 22 and 23 October 1999,[44] both of which recognize the critical need for support for African countries in addressing the supply-side constraints on their integration into the world economy,

Recognizing the importance of industrialization as a key element in promoting sustained economic growth and sustainable development in Africa, in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions, as well as the outcomes of major United Nations conferences, and also its role in facilitating efforts for the eradication of poverty through, *inter alia*, promotion of competitiveness, productive employment, capacity-building, gender-mainstreaming and effective and efficient management systems,

Recognizing also the commendable efforts of African countries to engage their respective private sectors in policy dialogue at the highest levels and to improve further the capacity of the private sector, including small and medium-sized enterprises,

Recognizing further the need for African countries to continue their efforts to create a climate favourable to private sector development and foreign direct investment and also the commitment of African countries to using both human and financial resources more efficiently in the process of industrialization, and emphasizing the continuing need for the mobilization of adequate resources through domestic initiatives and international support, *inter alia*, through enhanced official development assistance, investment guarantees, debt-for-industrial development swaps, as appropriate, and enhanced market access,

Welcoming the reform and revitalization of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, as well as its new approach of providing comprehensive packages of integrated services to promote sustainable industrial development in African countries and its approach to field activities through joint programming with the United Nations resident coordinator system in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, where appropriate, and commending the United Nations Industrial Development Organization for initiating closer collaboration with the World

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[38] Resolution S-18/3, annex.

[39] Resolution 45/199, annex.

[40] Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

[41] A/52/465, annex II, document AHG/Decl.4 (XXXIII).

[42] See A/52/480, sect. IV.C.

[43] A/54/320, annex.

[44] See E/ECA/CAMI.14/99/10, annex IV.

Trade Organization, with the participation of their secretariats and the States Members of the United Nations and observer States, with a view to, *inter alia*, contributing to efforts towards enhancing market access, as appropriate, for African industrial products,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993–2002);[45]

2. *Reaffirms* the need for the African countries that have yet to do so to integrate the objectives of the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization, as appropriate, into their national plans for the establishment of institutional capacity for monitoring programmes and related projects;

3. *Invites* the international community, the African Development Bank and other relevant regional institutions to support the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and the Plan of Action for the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization,[42] including the outcome of the Conference on Industrial Partnerships and Investment in Africa;

4. *Appeals* to the international community, the World Bank, the African Development Bank and United Nations funds and programmes, in accordance with their respective mandates, to support the efforts of the African countries to intensify and to expand industrial cooperation among themselves;

5. *Calls upon* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to strengthen its close working relationship with the World Trade Organization and other relevant multilateral institutions, with the participation of their secretariats and the States Members of the United Nations and observer States, for the provision of technical assistance to African countries, particularly the least developed among them, so as to enhance their capacity to overcome technical barriers to trade in industrial and other products, including improving quality standards to alleviate supply-side constraints, and to promote industrial competitiveness within the context of the integrated framework initiative in order to enable them to integrate fully into the world economy;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Economic Commission for Africa, in accordance with their respective mandates, and in coordination with the United Nations system, to support African countries in the implementation of the relevant recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/204

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/586)

54/204. Business and development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 52/209 of 18 December 1997 on business and development and 51/191 of 16 December 1996 on the United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions,

Noting the adoption of relevant conventions by the International Labour Organization relating to labour,

Recalling the successful outcome of the World Summit for Social Development, including the commitments contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[46] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit,[47] and calling for the implementation of those commitments,

Noting the important efforts of the United Nations system to facilitate the active and constructive involvement of the private sector in the development process and the efforts of the Secretary-General to create partnerships with the private sector in this regard,

Recognizing the sovereign right of each State to decide on the development of its private and public sectors in accordance with its priorities,

Emphasizing that business and industry, including corporations engaged in international business activities, can contribute substantially to a country's economic and social development and environmental protection, and are important generators of employment and economic growth,

Reaffirming the importance, in the context of national development efforts, of promoting appropriate privatization, competition, entrepreneurship and a supportive legal and fiscal framework for business so as to increase efficiency, economic growth and sustainable development,

Recognizing the important role of small and medium-sized enterprises and micro-financing in supporting economic and social development,

Recognizing also that a dynamic business sector is essential to economic growth, job creation, trade expansion and technology development,

Recognizing further the link among effective, accountable and transparent administration of the public sector, financial transparency in the private sector, investor confidence and the stability of financial systems,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[48]

2. *Encourages* Governments, multilateral institutions and the private sector, including corporations engaged in international business activities, to strengthen partnerships so as to advance sustainable development through, *inter alia*, supporting the stable functioning of the international finance and trade system and investment flows, particularly in support of the development efforts of developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition;

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[45] A/54/320.

[46] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[47] Ibid., annex II.

[48] A/54/451.

3. *Encourages* Governments to create an environment that enables businesses to conduct their activities in a humane, sustainable and socially responsible way;

4. *Urges* all Governments to create an enabling environment for business and investment, including through sound macroeconomic, fiscal and development policies, the rule of law, anti-corruption and anti-bribery efforts, and transparent business practices that promote efficiency, fairness and competitiveness in international commercial transactions, taking into account the needs of developing countries;

5. *Urges* the private sector, including corporations engaged in international business activities, to pursue orderly and fair business practices while adhering to and promoting the principles of honesty, transparency and accountability in international commercial transactions, with a view to contributing to efforts to create an enabling environment for business and investment;

6. *Requests* the international community, including the business community and relevant international bodies, to consider ways and means of promoting such principles and practices and respect for those practices by multinational companies in their operations in all countries;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of a supportive international economic environment, including investment and trade, for the promotion of entrepreneurship and privatization;

8. *Strongly stresses* the need for adequate resources, including the provision of new and additional resources from all sources, and transfer of technology on favourable terms, *inter alia*, on concessional and preferential terms as mutually agreed, to developing countries, particularly to Africa and the least developed countries, for developing appropriate infrastructure and business services to promote entrepreneurship;

9. *Recognizes* the special development priorities and concerns of developing countries, and in this regard calls for international support for the realization of their development goals, *inter alia*, through the promotion of business and entrepreneurship;

10. *Stresses* the importance of micro-finance, including micro-credit, to people living in poverty, in allowing them to undertake the establishment of micro-enterprises, which in turn generate self-employment and contribute to the achievement of empowerment, particularly of women, and calls for the strengthening of institutions supportive of micro-financing, in particular micro-credit;

11. *Values* the promotion of entrepreneurship, *inter alia*, through the informal sector and micro-enterprises, in the development of small and medium-sized enterprises and industries by various actors throughout civil society, and of privatization, demonopolization and the simplification of administrative procedures;

12. *Stresses* the importance, in the context of establishing and maintaining adequate social safety nets, including assistance to workers, of encouraging investment in human resources through programmes devoted to health, education and job training, and recognizes that such efforts are an integral part of overall poverty reduction strategies;

13. *Encourages* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to provide a forum for intergovernmental discussions concerning issues related to private sector development and international flows of investment, with input from representatives of the private sector;

14. *Invites* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and other relevant United Nations bodies to strengthen further their activities, in particular those concerning Africa and the least developed countries, in the promotion of entrepreneurship development, especially with respect to small and medium-sized enterprises, and calls upon the international community to lend its support, where appropriate, to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in this regard;

15. *Calls upon* the United Nations funds and programmes, in accordance with their mandates, to continue to strengthen support for the promotion of entrepreneurship and, in their work in implementing the present resolution, to give due consideration to the role of the business sector in development, taking into account the priorities set by each country, while ensuring a gender perspective;

16. *Calls upon* the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and agreed work programmes, to continue to assist Member States, at their request, in implementing national programmes to create an enabling environment for business, investment and development;

17. *Stresses* the need to continue to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition, at their request, in strengthening their capacity to encourage wider participation of the private sector in their economies;

18. *Invites* relevant United Nations organizations, within their mandates and in consultation with Governments, to promote meaningful contributions by business, in both the public and the private sectors, in support of economic growth and sustainable development;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Business and development", and requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the relevant United Nations organizations, to submit at that session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/205

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/586)

54/205. Prevention of corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/176 of 15 December 1998 on action against corruption and bribery in international commercial transactions,

Concerned about the seriousness of problems posed by corruption, which may endanger the stability and security of societies, undermine the values of democracy and morality and jeopardize social, economic and political development, *Recognizing* the importance of existing international and national laws for combating corruption in international commercial transactions,

Recognizing also the important role of the business community, in particular the private sector, in enhancing the dynamic process of the development of the agricultural, industrial and service sectors and the need to create an enabling environment for business in order to facilitate economic growth and development of developing countries, most especially African countries,

Mindful of the very important role that the private sector can play in fostering economic growth and development and of the active involvement of the United Nations system in facilitating the constructive participation and orderly interaction of the private sector in the development process by embracing universal principles and norms, such as honesty, transparency and accountability,

1. *Condemns* corruption, bribery, money-laundering and the illegal transfer of funds;

2. *Calls* for further international and national measures to combat corrupt practices and bribery in international transactions and for international cooperation in support of these measures;

3. *Also calls* for, while recognizing the importance of national measures, increased international cooperation, *inter alia*, through the United Nations system, in devising ways and means of preventing and addressing illegal transfers, as well as in repatriating illegally transferred funds to their countries of origin, and calls upon all countries and entities concerned to cooperate in this regard;

4. *Requests* the international community to support the efforts of all countries aimed at strengthening institutional capacity for preventing corruption, bribery, money-laundering and the illegal transfer of funds;

5. *Decides* to keep this matter under review, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States and relevant bodies of the United Nations system, to include in the report called for in its resolution 53/176, to be submitted at its fifty-fifth session, information on progress in the implementation of the present resolution and recommendations, *inter alia*, with regard to repatriating illegally transferred funds to their countries of origin.

RESOLUTION 54/206

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/587/Add.1)

54/206. Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance and continued validity of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, and of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990,

Recalling its resolutions 45/234 of 21 December 1990, 46/144 of 17 December 1991, 47/152 of 18 December 1992, 48/185 of 21 December 1993, 49/92 of 19 December 1994, 51/173 of 16 December 1996 and 53/178 of 15 December 1998 on the implementation of the Declaration and the Strategy, and the Agenda for Development,[49]

Recalling also the results, as agreed, of all the major United Nations conferences and summit meetings held since the beginning of the 1990s,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[50]

2. *Recognizes* the efforts made to implement the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade in the 1990s, and stresses the need to strengthen such actions in collaboration with, *inter alia*, efforts taken in the context of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s[51] and its implementing arm, the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa, and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s;[52]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with all concerned organs and organizations of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, as well as other relevant international organizations, to submit to the General Assembly, for consideration at its fifty-fifth session, an update of the report of the Secretary-General;[50]

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with all concerned organs and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Committee for Development Policy, to submit to the General Assembly for consideration at its fifty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a draft text of an international development strategy for the first decade of the new millennium, with the aim of giving further impetus to international cooperation for development and of monitoring long-term trends in the global economy as well as the attainment of internationally agreed targets:

(*a*) Building on the outcomes, *inter alia*, of the major United Nations conferences and summit meetings held during the 1990s, the Agenda for Development[49] and any other relevant ongoing processes related to international cooperation for development;

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[49] Resolution 51/240, annex.

[50] A/54/389.

[51] Resolution 46/151, annex.

[52] See *Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3–14 September 1990* (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

(*b*) Taking into account the dynamic changes to the world economy resulting from, *inter alia*, globalization, interdependence and liberalization and the rapid advances in science and technology;

5. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session to initiate consultations with all Member States with a view to establishing the modalities for the consideration and conclusion of the proposal of the Secretary-General called for in paragraph 4 above at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Sustainable development and international cooperation: implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade".

RESOLUTION 54/207

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/587/Add.2)

54/207. Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/180 of 15 December 1998, in which, *inter alia*, it decided that the special session for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) would be held in June 2001 for a period of three working days, and that the Commission on Human Settlements should serve as the Preparatory Committee for the special session,

Having considered the report of the Commission on Human Settlements acting as Preparatory Committee for the special session on its organizational session,[53]

1. *Endorses* the decisions of the Commission on Human Settlements acting as the Preparatory Committee for the special session, in particular regarding its rules of procedure and the dates, venue and provisional agenda for its first substantive session;[54]

2. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)".

RESOLUTION 54/208

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/587/Add.2)

54/208. Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/177 of 16 December 1996, in which it endorsed the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements[55] and the Habitat Agenda,[56] adopted by the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) at Istanbul on 14 June 1996,

Recalling also its resolutions 52/190 and 52/192 of 18 December 1997 on the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the future role of the Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling further its resolution 53/242 of 28 July 1999 concerning environment and human settlements,

Having considered the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its seventeenth session,[57]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its seventeenth session;[57]

2. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Acting Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to strengthen the capacity of the Centre, in particular the normative area, and to improve the linkages between the normative and operational activities of the Centre so as to enable it to exercise effectively its vital role as focal point for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;[56]

3. *Also welcomes* the progress made by the Acting Executive Director in the revitalization of the Centre, and encourages the Executive Director to implement fully, as a matter of urgency, all administrative and financial management reforms, as part of the ongoing revitalization process;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the staffing of the new organizational structure is completed as a matter of urgency in accordance with the principle of equitable geographical representation and gender balance, including, in particular, improving the status of women in the Secretariat, and bearing in mind the need for recruitment of qualified staff in accordance with the relevant United Nations regulations and rules;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General as a matter of urgency to appoint a full-time Executive Director for the Centre in accordance with resolution 53/242;

6. *Takes note* of the increased cooperation and collaboration between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the United Nations Environment Programme within the framework of their respective mandates

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[53] See A/54/322.

[54] Ibid., chaps. V and VI.

[55] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[56] Ibid., annex II.

[57] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/54/8).

and separate programmatic, budgetary and organizational identities with a view to improving the effectiveness of their work;

7. *Stresses* the importance of strengthening the United Nations Office at Nairobi as the only United Nations headquarters located in a developing country;

8. *Calls upon* all countries to ensure the provision of sufficient financial resources, on a stable and predictable basis, for the successful implementation of the work programme for the biennium 2000–2001, and reiterates the recognition by the Commission on Human Settlements at its seventeenth session that this implementation will require substantial additional funding and its request to the Executive Director to raise more funds from all sources and to broaden the donor base;

9. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary resources from the regular budget to the Centre for the biennium 2000-2001 in accordance with current budgetary practices and procedures;

10. *Welcomes* the decision by the Economic and Social Council to discuss human settlements issues at its coordination segment in 2000 and to have as its sectoral theme the coordinated implementation by the United Nations system of the Habitat Agenda,[58] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the report submitted to the Council on the question, along with the recommendations of the Council thereon, be made available to the General Assembly for its consideration under the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)";

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)".

RESOLUTION 54/209

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/587/Add.2)

54/209. Follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 52/192 of 18 December 1997 on the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the future role of the Commission on Human Settlements and 53/180 of 15 December 1998 on the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda,[59]

Noting that the work programme for the biennium 2000–2001 approved by the Commission on Human Settlements at its seventeenth session,[60] in line with resolution 52/192, is organized according to the structure of the Habitat Agenda,

Noting also that the two subprogrammes of the work programme for the biennium 2000–2001 correspond to the goals of the Habitat Agenda of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world,

Recognizing that the overall thrust of the new strategic vision for the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and its emphasis on two global campaigns, concerning secure tenure and urban governance, are strategic points of entry for effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda,

Reaffirming the role of the Centre as focal point for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the need for the Centre adequately to perform this role through the active mobilization and broadening of its network of United Nations, governmental and non-governmental partners,

Stressing the need to provide strategic support to the efforts of local authorities and partners from civil society in the global, regional and local implementation of the Habitat Agenda,

1. *Calls upon* all relevant United Nations organizations and specialized agencies to take initiatives and continue with their specific actions towards the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;[59]

2. *Also calls upon* relevant United Nations organizations and specialized agencies that have not yet done so to identify specific initiatives and actions to be undertaken in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

3. *Invites* the United Nations coordinator system to strengthen its support to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda through, *inter alia*, assistance in the implementation of national local plans of action based on the full involvement of local authorities and partners from civil society;

4. *Calls upon* all Member States to initiate preparations for reporting on in-country implementation of the Habitat Agenda, in line with the recommendations by the Commission on Human Settlements as described in its resolution 17/1 of 14 May 1999,[61] with a view to contributing fully to the preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly to be held in the year 2001 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, including the strengthening and activation, wherever necessary, of national coordination mechanisms, inclusive of local authorities and civil society partners, along the models pioneered at the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

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[58] See Economic and Social Council decision 1999/281 of 30 July 1999.

[59] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[60] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/54/8), annex I, sect. A.2, resolution 17/20.

[61] Ibid., sect. A.1.

5. *Invites* all Member States in a position to do so to provide financial resources for the preparatory process for the special session, in particular to enable least developed countries and their national civil-society partners to prepare adequately for, and be fully involved in, the preparatory process and the special session itself.

RESOLUTION 54/210

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/587/Add.3)

54/210. Women in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/195 of 18 December 1997 and all its other resolutions on the integration of women in development, and also the relevant resolutions and the agreed conclusions, including those on women in the economy,[62] adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women,

Reaffirming the Beijing Platform for Action[63] and the outcomes of recent major United Nations conferences and summits,

Taking note of the ministerial communiqué of the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council on the theme "The role of employment and work in poverty eradication: the empowerment and advancement of women",[64]

Reaffirming that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and recent United Nations conferences, and that investing in the development of women and girls has a multiplier effect, in particular on productivity, efficiency and sustained economic growth,

Recognizing the significant contribution that women make to the economy and the major force that they represent for change and development in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services,

Reaffirming that women are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the community and in the workplace and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing that the rapid development of information technology and other new technologies presents both opportunities and challenges to women, in particular in developing countries,

Recognizing also that population and development issues, education and training, health, nutrition, the environment, water supply, sanitation, housing, communications, science and technology and employment opportunities are important elements for effective poverty eradication and the advancement and empowerment of women,

Recognizing further in this context the importance of respect for all human rights, including the right to development, and of a national and international environment that promotes, *inter alia*, justice, equity, popular participation and political freedom for the advancement and empowerment of women,

Concerned that the continued discrimination against women, the denial or lack of equal rights and access to education, training and credit facilities and the lack of control over land, capital, technology and other areas of production impede their full and equal contribution to, and equal opportunity to benefit from, development,

Recognizing that the difficult socio-economic conditions that exist in many developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, have resulted in the acceleration of the feminization of poverty and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Aware that, although globalization and liberalization processes have created employment opportunities for women in many countries, they have made women, especially in developing countries and in particular the least developed countries, more vulnerable to problems caused by increased economic volatility,

Recognizing that some effects of market liberalization may deepen the socio-economic marginalization of women in the agricultural sector, including through the loss of employment among small-scale farmers who are more likely to be women than men, and emphasizing that small-scale women farmers need special support and empowerment so as to be able to meet the challenges and opportunities of agricultural market liberalization,

Recognizing also that enhanced trade opportunities for developing countries, including through trade liberalization, will improve the economic condition of those societies, including women, which is of particular importance in rural communities,

Recognizing further the continued need to review the impact of structural adjustment programmes in order to reduce any adverse impact on women, especially in terms of cutbacks in social services, education and health and the removal of subsidies on food and fuel,

Emphasizing the promotion of programmes aimed at financial intermediation with a view to ensuring the access of rural women to credit and to agricultural inputs and implements and, in particular, to easing collateral requirements for access to finance by women,

Recognizing that the informal sector is a major source of entrepreneurship and employment for women in developing countries and that data collection on its important contribution should be improved,

Expressing its concern about the under-representation of women in economic decision-making, and stressing the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policy formulation, implementation and evaluation,

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[62] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 7* (E/1997/27), chap. I, sect. C.1, agreed conclusions 1997/3.

[63] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[64] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 23.

Recognizing that the increase in women's participation in paid employment contributes to the empowerment of women and gender equality by promoting the status, independence, self-esteem and decision-making power of women, but also that this alone may be insufficient, since, in general, the burden of household work and primary responsibility of women for childcare can give rise to an onerous double working day for most women,

Stressing the need for a family-friendly work environment, including appropriate working hours, affordable childcare and flexible working hours, and emphasizing the principle of shared responsibility between women and men for the achievement of gender equality,

Noting the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes, including the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, in facilitating the advancement of women in development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the 1999 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development: Globalization, Gender and Work;[65]

2. *Calls* for the accelerated and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action[63] and the relevant provisions contained in the outcomes of all other major United Nations conferences and summits, and in this regard expresses the hope that the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", which will be held from 5 to 9 June 2000, can take tangible and significant steps to enhance the effective participation of women in development;

3. *Stresses* that a favourable and conducive national and international environment in all fields of life is necessary for the effective integration of women in development;

4. *Urges* Governments to develop and to promote methodologies for mainstreaming a gender perspective in all aspects of policy-making, including economic policy-making;

5. *Stresses* the importance of developing national strategies for promoting sustainable and productive entrepreneurial activities to generate income among disadvantaged women and women living in poverty;

6. *Urges* all Governments to ensure women's equal rights with men and their full and equal access to education, training, employment, technology and economic and financial resources, including credit, in particular for rural women and women in the informal sector, and to facilitate, where appropriate, the transition of women from the informal to the formal sector;

7. *Recognizes* the role of micro-finance including micro-credit in the eradication of poverty, the empowerment of women and the generation of employment and, in this regard, notes the importance of sound national financial systems and encourages the strengthening of existing and emerging micro-credit institutions and their capacities, including through the support of international financial institutions;

8. *Requests* Governments to ensure that the priorities of women are included in, and that women fully participate in, decisions on public investment programmes for economic infrastructure, technology, water supply and sanitation, electrification and energy conservation, transport and road construction and to promote the greater involvement of women beneficiaries at the project planning and implementation stages to ensure their access to jobs and contracts;

9. *Stresses* the need for assistance to enable women in developing countries, particularly grass-roots women's groups, to have full access to and use of new technologies, including information technologies, for their empowerment;

10. *Also stresses* the need to ensure that women and girls have full and equal access to all levels of education, vocational training and retraining programmes in order to improve their employment opportunities;

11. *Urges* States to design and revise laws that ensure that women are accorded full and equal rights as men to own land and other property, including through the right to inheritance, and to undertake administrative reforms and other necessary measures to give women the same right as men to credit, capital, appropriate technologies, access to markets and information;

12. *Requests* Governments to ensure the full participation of women in decision-making and policy formulation and implementation at all levels so that their priorities, skills and potentials can be adequately reflected in national policy;

13. *Calls upon* Governments to promote, *inter alia*, through legislation, family-friendly and gender-sensitive work environments and also to promote the facilitation of breastfeeding for working mothers;

14. *Stresses* the need for Governments and employers, as appropriate, to implement policies aimed at ensuring stability and security of work and to put in place social protection measures that cover temporary, part-time, informal sector and home workers, a majority of whom are women;

15. *Calls upon* the international community to make efforts to mitigate the effects of excess volatility and economic disruption, which have a disproportionately negative impact on women, and to enhance trade opportunities for developing countries in order to improve the economic conditions of women;

16. *Urges* the international community, the United Nations system and relevant organizations to give priority to assisting the efforts of developing countries to ensure the full and effective participation of women in deciding and implementing development strategies and integrating gender concerns into national programmes, including by providing adequate resources to operational activities for development in support of the efforts of Governments to ensure, *inter alia*, increased access of women to health care, capital, education, training and technology and full and equal participation in all decision-making;

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[65] A/54/227.

17. *Calls upon* developed countries to strengthen their efforts to achieve, as soon as possible, the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance and, where agreed, within that target to earmark 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national product for the least developed countries, so as to assist the developing countries in implementing strategies to eradicate poverty and to promote development and gender equality;

18. *Urges* multilateral donors, international financial institutions and regional development banks to review and implement policies to support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reach women, in particular in rural and remote areas;

19. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to integrate gender mainstreaming into all its programmes and policies, including in the integrated follow-up to United Nations conferences, in accordance with agreed conclusions 1997/2 on gender mainstreaming adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1997;[66]

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to update the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session; as in the past, this survey should focus on selective emerging development issues that have an impact on the role of women in the economy at the national, regional and international levels;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the sub-item entitled "Women in development".

RESOLUTION 54/211

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/587/Add.4)

54/211. Developing human resources for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 45/191 of 21 December 1990, 46/143 of 17 December 1991, 48/205 of 21 December 1993, 50/105 of 20 December 1995 and 52/196 of 18 December 1997, as well as the relevant sections of the Agenda for Development,[67]

Recognizing that the well-being of people is the overall goal of sustainable development,

Stressing that Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development and that there is a need for continued support from the international community to complement the efforts of developing countries,

Stressing also that there is a need for a supportive and favourable national and international economic environment that will enhance human resources development in developing countries and promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and the outcomes of recent United Nations conferences,

Recognizing that there is a need to integrate human resources development into comprehensive strategies that mainstream a gender perspective, taking into account the needs of all people, in particular the needs of women and the girl child,

Recognizing also the vital role of South-South cooperation in supporting national efforts at human resources development,

Expressing concern at the increasing development gap between developed and developing countries, including the gap in knowledge, information and communication technologies, and at the increasing disparity of income in and among nations and its adverse impact on the development of human resources, in particular in the developing countries,

Stressing that developing countries should be assisted so that they can be well equipped with the knowledge of information technology that would enable them to benefit from the opportunities offered by globalization and to avoid the risk of marginalization in the process of globalization,

Emphasizing the continued need for coordination and integration among the organs and organizations of the United Nations system in assisting developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, to foster the development of their human resources, especially that of the most vulnerable groups, and for the United Nations to continue to give priority to human resources development in developing countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[68]

2. *Recognizes* the importance of developing human resources as a means, *inter alia*, of participating more effectively in the world economic system and of benefiting from globalization;

3. *Urges* increased investments in all aspects of human development, such as education and training, health and nutrition, to achieve universal coverage and the well-being of all;

4. *Also urges* the adoption of comprehensive approaches to human resources development which combine, among other factors, economic growth, provision of basic social services, poverty eradication, sustainable livelihoods, empowerment of women, involvement of youth, the needs of vulnerable groups of society, political freedom, popular participation, respect for human rights, justice and equity, all of which are essential for enhancing human capacity to meet the challenge of development;

5. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure the full participation of women in the formulation and implementation of national policies to promote human resources development;

6. *Encourages* all countries to accord priority, in particular in national budgets, to human resources development in the context of the adoption of economic and social policies;

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[66] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/52/3/Rev.1), chap. IV A, para. 4.

[67] Resolution 51/240, annex.

[68] A/54/408.

7. *Invites* international organizations, including international financial institutions, to continue to give priority to supporting the objectives of human resources development and to integrating them into their policies, programmes and operations;

8. *Recognizes* the need to direct concerted efforts at enhancing the technical skills and know-how of people living in rural and agricultural areas, with a view to improving their means of livelihood and material well-being, and in this regard encourages the allocation of more resources for this purpose so as to facilitate access to appropriate technology and know-how from within and from other countries, in particular the developed countries, as well as through South-South cooperation;

9. *Encourages* the adoption of policies, approaches and measures that serve to narrow the increasing gap between developed and developing countries in information and communication technologies in particular and in technology in general, including by:

(*a*) Encouraging the private sector, in collaboration with the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, to donate voluntarily to designated centres in developing countries literary materials, information and communication technology equipment and training, in order to facilitate improved access, as well as to make funds available for these purposes;

(*b*) Taking advantage of the rapid turnaround in both the educational institutions and corporations in developed countries of literary material and information and communication technology equipment, through coordinated efforts involving the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and recipients or interested developing countries;

(*c*) Promoting transparent, efficient regulatory regimes and other policies that encourage investment;

(*d*) Supporting targeted investments in infrastructure that would establish the physical foundation for the operation of Internet services and pave the way for commercial and development applications;

(*e*) Developing training in information technologies for users such as non-governmental organizations, universities and business service organizations, as well as key governmental agencies;

10. *Calls upon* developing countries, with the support of the international community, to establish information, communication and electronic community centres, where appropriate and in cooperation with the private sector, in order to provide connectivity and access to information and knowledge;

11. *Calls upon* the developed countries and the United Nations system to increase support to programmes and activities of developing countries for human resources development and capacity-building, in particular those geared towards harnessing information and communication technologies;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session an assessment of the efficiency and effectiveness of the contribution made by the United Nations system to advancing human resources development in developing countries through its operational activities, and to make recommendations to enhance further its impact;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", the sub-item entitled "Human resources development".

RESOLUTION 54/212

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/587/Add.5)

54/212. International migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development adopted at Cairo,[69] in particular chapter X on international migration, and the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, set out in the annex to General Assembly resolution S-21/2 of 2 July 1999, in particular section II.C on international migration, as well as the relevant provisions contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[70] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[71] and in the Platform for Action[72] adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,

Recalling also its resolutions 49/127 of 19 December 1994, 50/123 of 20 December 1995 and 52/189 of 18 December 1997 on international migration and development, as well as Economic and Social Council decision 1995/313 of 27 July 1995,

Reaffirming the continuing validity of the principles set forth in the international instruments regarding the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[73] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[74] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[75] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[76]

Recalling that the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council should carry out their respective responsibilities as entrusted to them in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as by the relevant United Nations conferences of the 1990s, in the formulation of policies and the provision of guidance to and coordination of United Nations activities in the field of population and development, including activities on international migration,

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[69] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[70] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[71] Ibid., annex II.

[72] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[73] Resolution 217 A (III).

[74] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[75] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[76] Resolution 44/25, annex.

Noting the need for the relevant United Nations organizations and other international organizations to enhance their technical support to developing countries to ensure that migration contributes to development,

Recognizing the diversity of views expressed by the respondents to the survey regarding the question of convening a United Nations conference on international migration, its scope, form and agenda,[77] which represented 39 per cent of the full United Nations membership, and that forty-five respondents were in favour of convening a conference, five were partially in favour and twenty-six were against,

Noting in particular the need for more migration data, a coherent theory to explain international migration and a better understanding of the complex interrelationships between migration and development,

Noting the critical role of the existing forums within the United Nations system in addressing the issues of international migration and development, including through the Commission on Population and Development, the Commission on Human Rights, the Committee for Development Policy, the International Labour Organization and other relevant key organizations,

Noting with appreciation the numerous meetings and conferences convened relating to migration and development,[78] in particular in the context of regional cooperation,

Noting the establishment of the International Migration Policy Programme in May 1998 by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the International Organization for Migration and the United Nations Population Fund, to be implemented in partnership with the International Labour Office, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other relevant international and regional institutions, with a view to strengthening the capacity of Governments in different regions to manage migration flows at national and regional levels and thus to foster cooperation among States towards orderly migration,

Aware that, among other factors, the process of globalization and liberalization, including the widening economic and social gap between and among many countries and the marginalization of some countries in the global economy, has contributed to large flows of peoples between and among countries and to the intensification of the complex phenomenon of international migration,

Aware also that, in spite of the existence of an already established body of principles, there is a need to make further efforts to ensure that the human rights and dignity of all migrants and their families are respected and protected and that it is desirable to improve the situation of all documented migrants and their families,

Recognizing the importance, from an analytical and operational point of view, of identifying the existing linkages among the social, economic, political and cultural factors related to international migration and development and of the need for comprehensive, coherent and effective policies on international migration based on the spirit of genuine partnership and common understanding,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[79]

2. *Urges* Member States and the United Nations system to strengthen international cooperation in the area of international migration and development in order to address the root causes of migration, especially those related to poverty, and to maximize the benefits of international migration to those concerned;

3. *Encourages*, where relevant, interregional, regional and subregional mechanisms to continue to address the question of migration and development;

4. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, within their continuing mandated activities, to continue to address the issue of international migration and development and to provide appropriate support for interregional, regional and subregional processes and activities on international migration and development;

5. *Also calls upon* the international community to seek to make the option of remaining in one's country viable for all people, to which end efforts to achieve sustainable economic and social development, ensuring a better economic balance between developed and developing countries, should be strengthened;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, whenever feasible, to solicit more views from Member States, particularly those that have not responded to the survey requested in pursuance of resolution 52/189, as well as from the International Labour Organization, the International Organization for Migration and other relevant organizations, both within and outside the

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[77] See A/54/207.

[78] Including the International Symposium: Towards Regional Cooperation in Irregular/Undocumented Migration, held at Bangkok from 21 to 23 April 1999, which adopted the Bangkok Declaration on Irregular Migration (see A/C.2/54/2, annex I); the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States, held at Geneva on 30 and 31 May 1996; the Regional Conference on Migration in North and Central America; the migration capacity-building and regional cooperation meetings organized by the International Migration Policy Programme with senior government officials from Eastern and Central Europe at Budapest in November 1998, senior government officials from southern Africa at Pretoria in April 1999 and Governments from Asia and the Pacific at Bangkok in November 1999; the Mediterranean Conference on Population, Migration and Development, held at Palma de Mallorca from 15 to 17 October 1998, and the Technical Symposium on International Migration and Development of the Administrative Committee on Coordination Task Force on Basic Social Services for All, held at The Hague from 29 June to 3 July 1998.

[79] A/54/207. The report includes information on the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development to address migration issues.

United Nations system, on the report of the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session,[98] bearing in mind various regional processes, and to recommend ways and means to address the problems related to migration and development;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to initiate appropriate action in consultation with regional commissions in order to ensure the carrying out of interregional activities, with the contribution of the relevant actors on issues relating to international migration and development, taking into account, *inter alia*, the report of the Secretary-General,[99] and encourages the United Nations bodies and other appropriate international organizations to provide support to such activities;

8. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report that will, *inter alia*, summarize the lessons learned, as well as best practices on migration management and policies, from the various activities relating to international migration and development that have been carried out at the regional and interregional levels, and recommend for the consideration of the Assembly policy actions that could be pursued at the international level, taking into account, *inter alia*, the following:

(*a*) The report of the Committee for Development Policy[99] on its examination of the issue of migration and development;

(*b*) The work of the relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other international organizations in the field of international migration and development;

(*c*) The possible mechanisms within the United Nations system to examine international migration and development in a comprehensive and integrated manner;

(*d*) The need to provide, in consultation with relevant United Nations bodies, an analysis of data relating to migration within and between the various regions;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the sub-item entitled "International migration and development, including the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development to address migration issues".

RESOLUTION 54/213

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/587/Add.7)

54/213. Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/165 of 21 December 1993, 49/95 of 19 December 1994, 50/122 of 20 December 1995, 51/174 of 16 December 1996, 52/186 of 18 December 1997 and 53/181 of 15 December 1998,

Recalling also the adoption of the Agenda for Development[100] and the relevant provisions on its follow-up and implementation, and the need to give impetus to international economic cooperation for development so as to follow up on the Agenda effectively,

Reaffirming the importance of continuing the dialogue to be conducted in response to the imperative of solidarity, mutual interests and benefits, genuine interdependence, shared responsibility and the partnership in promoting international economic cooperation for development,

Recognizing, in this context, the importance of an enabling environment and sound economic policy at both the national and the international levels,

Recognizing also the role of regional cooperation in promoting complementarity and in creating synergies and partnerships at the subregional, regional, interregional and global levels in the process of globalization and thereby furthering multilateral economic cooperation,

Emphasizing the importance of recognizing and addressing the specific concerns of countries with economies in transition so as to help them to benefit from globalization, with a view to their full integration into the world economy,

Noting the need to ensure the integrated and coordinated follow-up and implementation by the United Nations system of major United Nations conferences and summits,

Noting also the past experience of the high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of continued constructive dialogue and genuine partnership to promote further international economic cooperation for development in the twenty-first century;

2. *Decides* that the theme of the second high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership will be "Responding to globalization: facilitating the integration of developing countries into the world economy in the twenty-first century";

3. *Also decides*, without changing the biennial nature of the high-level dialogue, to defer the holding of the second two-day high-level dialogue to the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly;

4. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to begin consultations with Member States so as to arrive at an early decision on the date, modalities, nature of the outcome and focus of the discussions of the second high-level dialogue, taking into account past experience and the contributions to be provided by Member States as well as regional institutions and the United Nations system, and commends the continuing use of interactive panel discussions, including with the participation of non-governmental actors, to facilitate the dialogue in accordance with relevant regulations and rules;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with Governments, all relevant parts of the United Nations system, relevant organizations and other development

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[98] A/52/314.

[99] See A/54/297, paras. 42-44.

[100] Resolution 51/240, annex.

agencies, to make initial preparations for the dialogue, while also taking into account the results of major United Nations conferences and summits;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", the sub-item entitled "High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at that session a consolidated report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/214

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/588/Add.7)

54/214. Conservation and sustainable development of Central African forest ecosystems

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992, and General Assembly resolutions 47/190 of 22 December 1992, on the report of the Conference, and 47/191 of 22 December 1992, establishing the institutional arrangements for the follow-up to the Conference,

Recalling also its resolution 53/188 of 15 December 1998 on the implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly,

Recalling further the work of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests within the context of the Commission on Sustainable Development,

Noting with appreciation the Summit of Central African Heads of State on the Conservation and Sustainable Management of Tropical Forests, held at Yaoundé from 12 to 17 March 1999,

Mindful of the need for the conservation and sustainable management of the forest ecosystems of Central Africa, which constitute an important natural asset for present and future generations,

Convinced that the sustainable management of forest resources can contribute significantly to the economic, social and cultural development of the States that border on forests,

Convinced also of the important role of subregional and international cooperation in the management of forest ecosystems and combating desertification, in keeping with the international commitments entered into by the international community,

Considering that a synergy of international and national efforts is essential in order to achieve sustainable development,

1. *Recognizes* the importance of the forests of the Central African subregion, the natural characteristics of which play an essential role in the equilibrium of the biosphere of the entire planet;

2. *Welcomes* the Declaration adopted by the Summit of Central African Heads of State on the Conservation and Sustainable Management of Tropical Forests, held at Yaoundé from 12 to 17 March 1999,[83] encourages the countries of Central Africa to implement to the fullest extent possible the undertakings set out in the Declaration, and recognizes the efforts made by those countries in this respect, in particular with regard to policy coherence and coordination, with a view to the sustainable management and conservation of the forest ecosystems of the Central African subregion;

3. *Invites* the international community to support the countries of Central Africa in these efforts, including through the provision of financial and technical assistance on a regional basis;

4. *Encourages* the international community, including the Global Environment Facility and the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests, when considering ways and means of achieving the conservation and sustainable management of all types of forests, to take into account, *inter alia*, the forests of the Central African subregion;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, within the context of the reporting emanating from the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests and taking into account other reporting requests under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 54/215

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/588/Add.7)

54/215. World Solar Programme 1996–2005

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/7 of 16 October 1998, by which it, *inter alia*, endorsed the World Solar Programme 1996–2005 as a contribution to the overall sustainable development agenda and invited all States Members of the United Nations to contribute to its successful implementation,

Recalling also resolution 29 C/14 concerning the World Solar Programme 1996–2005, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in November 1997,[84]

Reaffirming that the convening at Harare on 16 and 17 September 1996 of the World Solar Summit, at which the Harare Declaration on Solar Energy and Sustainable Development[85] was adopted and the preparation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005[86] approved, was a step in pursuance of the implementation of Agenda 21,[87] which is a multifaceted and, at the same time, fundamental programme of action for achieving sustainable development,

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[83] A/C.2/54/5, annex.

[84] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-ninth Session, Paris, 21 October–12 November 1997*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*.

[85] A/53/395, annex, sect. II.

[86] Ibid., annex, sect. V.D.

[87] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

Recognizing that mutually supportive efforts at the national and international levels are imperative in the pursuit of sustainable development, which includes, *inter alia*, the provision of financial resources and the transfer of technology for the application of cost-effective energy systems and wider use of environment-friendly, renewable energies,

Acknowledging the important role of the General Assembly in promoting the World Solar Programme 1996–2005,

Acknowledging also the role of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Economic and Social Council as forums for the discussion of new and renewable sources of energy and sustainable development,

Expressing its appreciation of the efforts of the Secretary-General in bringing the World Solar Programme 1996–2005 to the attention of relevant sources of funding and technical assistance,

Noting the establishment of the Inter-agency Working Group on Energy with a view to ensuring the coordination of the activities of all relevant organizations of the United Nations system in the preparations for the ninth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development in 2001, and to contributing to sustainable development, taking into account the recommendations of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005,

Noting also that the Global Renewable Energy Education and Training Programme 1996–2005[88] constitutes one of the major programmes of universal value of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005,

Calling for further action to ensure that the World Solar Programme 1996–2005 is fully integrated into and brought into the mainstream of the efforts of the United Nations system towards attaining the objective of sustainable development,

Emphasizing that the achievement of more substantive results in the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005, as part of the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, will require the more active and collaborative involvement of all concerned parties, including Governments, multilateral funding agencies and relevant parts of the United Nations system,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General,[89] including measures taken by the various entities of the United Nations system for the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in promoting, within its mandate, the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005, in particular its education and training programmes in the field of new and renewable sources of energy, and, in this context, also notes with appreciation the initiative undertaken by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of inviting the competent organs and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate in the implementation of the Programme;

3. *Notes* the role that the World Solar Commission has so far played in the mobilization of international support and assistance for the implementation of many of the national high-priority projects on renewable sources of energy included in the World Solar Programme 1996–2005, many of which are being executed with national funding;

4. *Commends highly* the efforts of many Member States in taking concrete national actions, including legislative measures, that have resulted in the wider use of renewable sources of energy in their countries;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the financial support that has been provided by some developed countries that are Members of the United Nations and some intergovernmental organizations, within and outside the United Nations system, in the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005;

6. *Calls upon* all relevant funding institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as regional funding institutions and non-governmental organizations, to support, as appropriate, the efforts being made for the development of the renewable energy sector in developing countries on the basis of environment-friendly, renewable sources of energy of demonstrated viability, while taking fully into account the development structure of energy-based economies of developing countries, and to assist in the attainment of the levels of investment necessary to expand energy supplies beyond urban areas;

7. *Takes note* of the decision of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization regarding the strategic importance of the Global Renewable Energy Education and Training Programme 1996–2005 in attaining the objective of sustainable development,[90] and encourages the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to make efforts to promote public awareness in all Member States in this regard, with the support of international, regional and national institutions, both public and private;

8. *Invites* all Governments to encourage the involvement of all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, in the promotion of research on and the development of renewable sources of energy, in particular, within this context, in the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005, in accordance with their respective national policies;

9. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to promote the mobilization of adequate technical assistance and funding and the full utilization of existing international funds for the effective implementation of national and regional high-priority projects in the area of renewable sources of energy;

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[88] See A/53/395, annex, sect. IV A.

[89] A/54/212.

[90] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirtieth Session, Paris, 26 October–17 November 1999*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*, resolution 19.

10. *Invites* the Inter-agency Working Group on Energy to facilitate the contribution of the work under the World Solar Programme 1996–2005 to the consideration of the theme of energy by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its ninth session, to be held in 2001;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme and other relevant organizations, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on concrete action being taken for the effective implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005, including promotion for mobilization of resources;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report on energy and sustainable development to the Commission on Sustainable Development a report on action to be taken to implement the present resolution, including further recommendations on appropriate modalities to promote new and renewable sources of energy;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", a sub-item entitled "Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005".

RESOLUTION 54/216

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/588/Add.7)

54/216. Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, by which it decided to establish the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Recalling also its resolutions 53/187 of 15 December 1998 on the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and 53/242 of 28 July 1999 on the report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements,

Recalling further the results and decisions of the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly, convened for the purpose of the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21[91] and, in particular, paragraphs 119 and 122 to 124 of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[92]

Recalling the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme,[93] adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its nineteenth session,

Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twentieth session,[94]

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twentieth session and the decisions contained therein;[94]

2. *Takes note*, in particular, of Governing Council decision 20/31 of 4 February 1999, entitled "Proposed programme budget of the United Nations Environment Programme: revised requirements for the biennium 1998–1999 and proposed requirements for the biennium 2000–2001",[95] in which the Governing Council gives concrete support to the integrated work programme of the Programme and endorsement of its new functional organizational structure, and anticipates an increased level of funding to the Environment Fund for the biennium 2000–2001;

3. *Supports* the proposals for the facilitation of and support for enhancing linkages and coordination within and among environmental and environment-related conventions, *inter alia*, by the United Nations Environment Programme, with full respect for the status of the respective convention secretariats and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the conferences of the parties to the conventions concerned;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its seventh session, and encourages the Governing Council at future sessions to provide its scientific, technical and policy information and analysis of and advice on global environmental issues to the Commission at future sessions and, in particular, to contribute to the preparation of the ten-year review of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 2002;

5. *Welcomes* the progress in the negotiation of an international legally binding instrument for implementing international action on certain persistent organic pollutants with a view to its earlier conclusion;

6. *Encourages* the supporting role of the United Nations Environment Programme for developing countries, particularly in Africa, through the development of policy support and capacity-building for international environmental negotiation, *inter alia*, through the revitalization of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment;

7. *Stresses* the importance of strengthening the United Nations Office at Nairobi in its capacity as the only United Nations Office located in a developing country, and encourages the increased utilization of its facilities;

8. *Notes* the increased cooperation and collaboration between the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), within the framework of their respective mandates and separate programmatic, budgetary and organizational

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[91] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[92] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[93] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/52/25), annex, decision 19/1, annex.

[94] Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 25* and addendum (A/54/25 and Add.1).

[95] Ibid., annex.

identities, with a view to improving the effectiveness of their work;

9. *Calls upon* all countries to ensure the provision of sufficient financial resources, on a stable and predictable basis, for the successful implementation of the work programme for the biennium 2000–2001;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary resources from the regular budget of the United Nations to the United Nations Environment Programme for the biennium 2000–2001, in accordance with current budgetary practices, and to consider ways to support further the revitalization of the Programme.

RESOLUTION 54/217

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/588/Add.7)

54/217. Enhancing complementarities among international instruments related to environment and sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[96] adopted at its nineteenth special session, in particular part IV thereof, entitled "International institutional arrangements",

Recalling also its resolutions 53/186 of 15 December 1998, on international institutional arrangements related to environment and development, and 53/242 of 28 July 1999, on the report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on international institutional arrangements related to environment and development,[97]

Taking note of decision 20/28 on promoting interlinkages among global environmental issues and human needs, adopted on 4 February 1999 by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,[98]

Emphasizing that policy decisions under the respective conventions are taken by the conferences of the parties thereto, which are autonomous governing bodies,

Noting that various conventions related to environment and sustainable development are at different stages of implementation, and recognizing the role of the General Assembly in fostering progress in the implementation of environmental and environment-related conventions and of the commitments contained therein,

Noting with appreciation the relevant ongoing work on the implementation of environmental and environment-related conventions at the national, bilateral, regional and international levels,

Reaffirming the need, as stipulated in part IV of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, for greater coherence in various intergovernmental organizations and processes by means of better policy coordination at the intergovernmental level, as well as for continued and more concerted efforts to enhance collaboration among the secretariats of relevant decision-making bodies,

Emphasizing the need for environmental conventions to continue to pursue sustainable development objectives that are consistent with their provisions and to be fully responsive to Agenda 21,[99]

1. *Encourages* the conferences of the parties to, and the permanent secretariats of, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[100] the Convention on Biological Diversity[101] and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[102] to examine further appropriate opportunities and measures to strengthen their complementarities and to improve scientific assessments of ecological linkages among the three conventions;

2. *Stresses* the need for the integrated consideration of linkages, both among sectors and between sectoral and cross-sectoral aspects of Agenda 21;[99]

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of facilitating and supporting the enhancement of linkages and coordination within and among environmental and environment-related conventions, *inter alia*, by the United Nations Environment Programme, with full respect for the status of the secretariats of the conventions and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the conferences of the parties to the conventions concerned, and, in this regard, supports the proposal of the Secretary-General concerning the establishment of an environmental management group for the purpose of enhancing inter-agency coordination in the areas of environment and human settlements, as stipulated in resolution 53/242;

4. *Notes with appreciation* all the progress made in the implementation of resolution 53/186;

5. *Encourages* the secretariats of the various environmental and environment-related conventions and international organizations, with full respect for the status of the secretariats of the conventions and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the conferences of the parties to the conventions concerned, to strengthen cooperation with a view to facilitating progress in the implementation of those conventions at the international, regional and national levels by:

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[96] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[97] A/54/468.

[98] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/54/25), annex.

[99] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[100] A/AC.237/18 (Part II)/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex I.

[101] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

[102] A/49/84/Add.2, annex, appendix II.

(*a*) Identifying opportunities for complementarity of activities undertaken to facilitate the implementation of commitments made by the parties to the various conventions;

(*b*) Encouraging the carrying out of further scientific analyses by relevant international organizations, such as the United Nations Environment Programme, the secretariats of the conventions, their subsidiary bodies, the United Nations Secretariat and relevant international scientific bodies, in order to identify possible activities with potential multiple benefits and to bring them to the attention of the conferences of the parties;

(*c*) Promoting more effective and coherent support from international organizations and financial institutions and mechanisms for national action aimed at the implementation of the conventions, in particular in the area of capacity-building;

(*d*) Addressing practical issues, such as more effective exchange of information, enhanced awareness-raising and streamlining of national reporting;

(*e*) Supporting, upon request, efforts being made at the national level towards adopting an integrated and holistic approach to the implementation of environmental and environment-related conventions;

(*f*) Bringing relevant issues to the attention of the General Assembly and relevant intergovernmental bodies for the consideration of Member States and the formulation of agreed policy recommendations, with a view to promoting a more holistic approach;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the executive secretaries of the conventions, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session for consideration under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 54/218

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/588/Add.1)

54/218. Implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992, and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21, held in New York from 23 to 28 June 1997,

Reaffirming that Agenda 21[103] is the fundamental programme of action for achieving sustainable development and that the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[104] adopted by the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session, will enhance the full implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Recognizing that the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 includes a statement of commitment to Agenda 21 and the goals of sustainable development, an assessment of progress made since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in all main areas of Agenda 21 and other outcomes of the Conference, and recommendations on the future methods of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the programme of work of the Commission for the period 1998–2002,

Recognizing also that mutually supportive efforts at the national and international levels are needed in the pursuit of sustainable development and that the gap between developed and developing countries points to the continuing need for a dynamic and enabling national and international economic environment that is supportive of international cooperation, in particular in the fields of finance, transfer of technology, debt and trade, if the momentum for global progress towards sustainable development is to be maintained and increased,

Noting with concern that, during the assessment and review of progress made at its nineteenth special session, the General Assembly concluded that although some progress had been made, especially at the local level, the overall trends with respect to the global environment had not improved, and emphasizing that the implementation of Agenda 21 in a comprehensive manner remains vitally important and is now more urgent than ever,

Noting that the next review of the implementation of Agenda 21 is to be carried out by the General Assembly in 2002,

Noting also the need for early substantive preparations for the ten-year review of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in order to attain meaningful results,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 53/188 of 15 December 1998 and Commission on Sustainable Development decision 7/9,[105] on preparations for the review of the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,

1. *Stresses* the need to accelerate the full implementation of Agenda 21[103] and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21;[104]

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[103] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[104] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[105] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 9* (E/1999/29), chap. I, sect. C.

2. *Recognizes* that the Commission on Sustainable Development, within its mandate as specified in General Assembly resolution 47/191 of 22 December 1992 and in the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, will continue to provide the central forum for reviewing progress on and urging further implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and other commitments made at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development or as a result of it, for conducting a high-level policy debate aimed at building consensus on sustainable development and for catalysing action on and long-term commitment to sustainable development at all levels;

3. *Calls upon* the Commission on Sustainable Development to continue to undertake these tasks in complementing and providing interlinkages to the work of other United Nations organs, organizations and bodies active in the field of sustainable development, to play its role in assessing the opportunities and challenges of globalization as they relate to sustainable development and to perform its functions in coordination with other subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council and with related organizations and institutions, including making recommendations, within its mandate, to the Council, bearing in mind the interrelated outcomes of recent United Nations conferences;

4. *Emphasizes* that the achievement of more substantive results by the next review of the implementation of Agenda 21 in 2002 will require concerted efforts at all levels, including by Governments, calls upon all countries to fulfil their commitments to Agenda 21, and in this context calls upon developed countries to fulfil the commitments that they have undertaken with respect to financial resources and the transfer of environmentally sound technology;

5. *Reaffirms*, in this context, the necessity of providing adequate and predictable financial resources, transferring environmentally sound technologies and providing capacity-building and technical assistance to developing countries for the implementation of Agenda 21 and for the achievement of the long-term goals of sustainable development, and calls for the preparations for the ten-year review of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, without prejudice to other priority areas that may be identified during the preparatory process, to address the challenges and constraints in the implementation of the commitments of the Conference at all levels and to identify ways and means of accelerating the implementation of Agenda 21, including the development of measures to remedy the slow rate of progress of the international community in implementing Agenda 21;

6. *Notes* the need for assistance to be provided by the international community to countries with economies in transition in their efforts to achieve the objectives of Agenda 21 and the long-term goals of sustainable development;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of the continued active and collaborative involvement of all relevant bodies of the United Nations system in the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, and requests the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with all relevant bodies of the United Nations system and taking into account the outcome of the deliberations in the Commission on Sustainable Development, to submit to the General Assembly for consideration at its fifty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council in view of its coordination function, an analytical report on the measures taken within the United Nations system to accelerate the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, including the identification of constraints and recommendations on how to address those constraints;

8. *Recognizes* the importance, for the effective implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, of a multifaceted approach at the local, national, regional and global levels, as well as of the continued involvement of major groups, as defined in Agenda 21, and calls for the preparations for the ten-year review to facilitate continued involvement and input from those various levels and from major groups;

9. *Stresses*, in this connection, the importance of high-quality preparations for the forthcoming ten-year review of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, requests the Secretary-General to include the views of Member States in the preliminary report requested by the Commission on Sustainable Development in its decision 7/9,[105] and invites Member States to submit their views to the Secretariat by February 2000;

10. *Renews its request* to the secretariat of the Commission on Sustainable Development to invite Governments to submit proposals on how to improve the guidelines for the elaboration of national reports and, based on the information received, to prepare a report to be submitted to the Commission as part of the preparations for the comprehensive review of the implementation of Agenda 21;

11. *Invites*, as part of the preparations for the ten-year review:

(*a*) The regional commissions to provide reports, through the Economic and Social Council in view of its coordination function, on how their activities are contributing to the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

(*b*) The relevant functional commissions that are implementing chapters of Agenda 21 to submit reports, through the Economic and Social Council in view of its coordination function, on how their activities are contributing to the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

(*c*) The Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to consider how the activities of the Programme are contributing to the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, and to submit its views to the General Assembly at the earliest opportunity;

(*d*) The Global Environment Facility, in the course of its regular work, to provide a report on how its activities are contributing to the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

(e) The secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[106] the Convention on Biological Diversity[107] and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[108] to provide reports on how their activities are contributing to the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

12. *Invites* the Secretary-General, while preparing the report requested by the General Assembly in paragraph 6 of its resolution 53/188, to take into account the preliminary discussions held by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its eighth session and by the Economic and Social Council, and to include in that report proposals for the analytical reports to be prepared for the review process.

RESOLUTION 54/219

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/588/Add.2)

54/219. International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction: successor arrangements

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994, 49/22 B of 20 December 1994 and 53/185 of 15 December 1998, and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 on the successor arrangements for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction,

Recalling also the results of the programme forum on the International Decade, held at Geneva from 5 to 9 July 1999, and the Geneva mandate on disaster reduction adopted by the forum, together with the strategy document entitled "A safer world in the twenty-first century: risk and disaster reduction",

Recalling further the forward-looking platform for international concerted disaster reduction as developed by the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction and as expressed in the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation and its Plan of Action,[109]

Reiterating that natural disasters damage the social and economic infrastructure of all countries, although the long-term consequences of natural disasters are especially severe for developing countries and hamper their sustainable development,

Recognizing the need for the international community to demonstrate the firm political determination required to utilize scientific and technical knowledge to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters and environmental hazards, taking into account the particular needs of developing countries,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/63,[110]

Noting the Declaration on Technical Cooperation for the Prevention and Relief of Natural Disasters, adopted by the Rio Group at its thirteenth summit meeting, held in Mexico on 28 and 29 May 1999, as well as the results of the first summit meeting of Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean and the European Union, held at Rio de Janeiro on 28 and 29 June 1999,[111]

Taking into account the consideration of natural disasters contained in the report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, held at Vienna from 19 to 30 July 1999,[112]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General concerning the activities of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction[113] and on the recommendations on institutional arrangements for disaster reduction activities of the United Nations system after the conclusion of the Decade;[114]

2. *Expresses deep concern* at the increasing number and scale of natural disasters, which have resulted in massive losses of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies worldwide, in particular in developing countries;

3. *Endorses* the proposals put forward in the report of the Secretary-General[114] to ensure the swift establishment of future arrangements for disaster reduction as well as functional continuity for the effective implementation of the international strategy for disaster reduction;

4. *Also endorses* the proposal of the Secretary-General to establish an inter-agency task force and inter-agency secretariat for disaster reduction, under the direct authority of the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, in a flexible manner, for the initial period of the biennium 2000–2001, and to undertake a review of these arrangements after the first year of operations with a view to submitting proposals on adjustments;[115]

5. *Decides* to maintain the observance of the International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction on the second Wednesday of October;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish, from voluntary contributions, a trust fund for disaster reduction to enable the funding of the inter-agency secretariat for disaster reduction and to transfer all assets of the Trust Fund for the

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[106] A/AC.237/18 (Part II)/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex I.

[107] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

[108] A/49/84/Add.2, annex, appendix II.

[109] A/CONF.172/9, resolution 1, annex I.

[110] A/54/497.

[111] A/54/448.

[112] A/CONF.184/6.

[113] A/54/132–E/1999/80 and Add.1.

[114] A/54/136–E/1999/89.

[115] See A/54/497, paras. 11–14.

International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction to the new trust fund for disaster reduction, effective 1 January 2000;

7. *Calls upon* Governments to continue to cooperate and coordinate their efforts with the Secretary-General and the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and other partners, as appropriate, to implement and to develop further a comprehensive strategy to maximize international cooperation in the field of natural disasters, based upon an effective division of labour, from prevention to early warning, response, mitigation, rehabilitation and reconstruction, including through capacity-building at all levels, and the development and strengthening of global and regional approaches that take into account regional, subregional, national and local circumstances and needs, as well as the need to strengthen coordination of national emergency response agencies in natural disasters;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to solicit the required inputs from Governments, the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations in order to optimize further and disseminate listings of organizations of the United Nations system as well as non-governmental organizations that provide civil protection and emergency response at all levels, with updated inventories of available resources, to help during natural disasters;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to optimize further and disseminate through all available channels, including handbooks, the information necessary to guide the international community at large in the effective management of international cooperation in the fields of disaster prevention, early warning, response, mitigation, rehabilitation and reconstruction;

10. *Emphasizes* the urgent need to develop further and make use of the existing scientific and technical knowledge to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters, bearing in mind the particular needs of developing countries, and, in this regard, calls upon all countries to strengthen scientific research and training of experts in universities and specialized institutions and to promote the exchange of information;

11. *Recognizes* the importance of early warning as an essential element in the culture of prevention, and encourages renewed efforts at all levels to contribute to natural hazard monitoring and impact prediction, the development and transfer of technology, capacity-building for disaster preparedness, the detection of natural hazards and the issuance and communication of early warnings, as well as education and professional training, public information and awareness-raising activities, such as the International Conference on Early-Warning Systems for the Reduction of Natural Disasters, held at Potsdam, Germany, from 7 to 11 September 1998, to ensure adequate action warnings;

12. *Reaffirms* the need for strengthening an international framework for the improvement of early warning systems and disaster preparedness by developing an effective international mechanism for early warning, including the transfer of technology related to early warning to developing countries, under the auspices of the United Nations, as an integral part of future strategies and frameworks or any arrangements for natural disaster reduction;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the implementation of the international strategy for disaster reduction, under the agenda item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 54/220

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/588/Add.2)

54/220. International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/200 of 18 December 1997 and 53/185 of 15 December 1998 on international cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon, and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46 of 28 July 1999, on the same subject, and 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 on the successor arrangements for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction,

Recalling also paragraph 20 of the report of the Secretary-General on successor arrangements for the Decade,[116]

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon[117] and the report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its seventh session,[118]

Having also considered the report on the conclusions and recommendations of the first Intergovernmental Meeting of Experts on El Niño, held at Guayaquil, Ecuador, from 9 to 13 November 1998,[119] and the feasibility study for the establishment of an international research centre on the El Niño/Southern Oscillation,[120]

Reaffirming the importance of developing strategies at the national, subregional, regional and international levels that aim to prevent, mitigate and rehabilitate the damage caused by natural disasters resulting from the El Niño phenomenon,

Taking into account the considerations in relation to the use of tele-observation systems on weather forecast and climate contained in the report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, held at Vienna from 19 to 30 July 1999,[121]

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General,[117] and endorses the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

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[116] A/54/497.

[117] A/54/135–E/1999/88.

[118] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 9* (E/1999/29).

[119] See A/C.2/53/10.

[120] A/54/135–E/1999/88, annex II.

[121] A/CONF.184/6.

2. *Welcomes* the 1999 retrospective report on the El Niño/Southern Oscillation prepared by the World Meteorological Organization;

3. *Reiterates* its invitation to Member States in paragraphs 8 and 9 of resolution 52/200 in relation to the technical and financial assistance needed to strengthen the national capacity of developing countries to support observation and research systems at the global and regional levels to prevent, mitigate and repair the damage caused by the El Niño/Southern Oscillation;

4. *Welcomes* the recommendations of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its seventh session regarding the approach that the United Nations system and the international community should take in dealing with the El Niño/Southern Oscillation,[122] and reiterates its invitation to Member States to cover the impact of the El Niño/Southern Oscillation in their annual national reports;

5. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, the relevant United Nations organizations and the international community to take the necessary measures, as appropriate, to establish an international research centre on El Niño at Guayaquil, Ecuador, invites the international community to provide financial, technical and scientific assistance and cooperation for this purpose, and encourages the centre, once established, to strengthen its links with other relevant regional and global climate-study organizations and to focus on the practical application of information regarding El Niño in such areas as disaster preparedness, agriculture, health, tourism, water and energy;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to promote the full implementation of its resolutions 52/200 and 53/185 as an integral part of the agreed arrangements after the conclusion of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, through the Commission on Sustainable Development at its eighth session and the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2000, a report on the implementation of the present resolution, under the agenda item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 54/221

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/588/Add.3)

54/221. Convention on Biological Diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/190 of 15 December 1998 on the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity,[123]

Reaffirming that the conservation of biological diversity is a common concern of humankind,

Recalling that States have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental policies and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction,

Recalling Agenda 21,[124] in particular its chapter 15 on the conservation of biological diversity and related chapters,

Having considered the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity as submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly,[125]

Deeply concerned about the continued loss of the world's biological diversity, and, on the basis of the provisions of the Convention, reaffirming the commitment to the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and technologies, and by appropriate funding,

Recognizing the contribution of indigenous and local communities, and women within those communities, to the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources,

Recalling the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its fourth meeting[126] relating to intellectual property rights, traditional knowledge and the relationship of the Convention with other international agreements,

Noting the continuing dialogue taking place in the Committee on Trade and Environment of the World Trade Organization on the provisions of the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights,[127]

Encouraged by the work carried out to date under the Convention, and satisfied that most States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified the Convention,

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[122] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 9* (E/1999/29), decision 7/1, para. 34.

[123] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

[124] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[125] A/54/428, annex.

[126] See UNEP/CBD/COP/4/27, annex.

[127] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

Taking note with appreciation of the generous offer of the Government of Kenya to host the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, which will be held at Nairobi from 15 to 26 May 2000,

Recalling its invitation to the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to report to the General Assembly on the results of future meetings of the Conference of the Parties,

1. *Takes note* of the results of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held at Bratislava from 4 to 15 May 1998;[126]

2. *Recognizes* the importance of the inter-sessional efforts of the Conference of the Parties since its fourth meeting to improve the effectiveness of the operations of the Convention;

3. *Reaffirms* the importance of the decision of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the adoption of the programmes of work and the thematic approach to guide its work in the development of the Convention for the foreseeable future, including its in-depth consideration of ecosystems;[126]

4. *Calls upon* Governments, in cooperation with the Conference of the Parties, to use science-based analysis to study and monitor closely the evolution of new technologies to prevent possible adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, which might have an impact on farmers and local communities;

5. *Recognizes* the importance of the adoption of a protocol on biosafety at the resumed session of the first extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties, to be held at Montreal, Canada, from 24 to 28 January 2000, and calls upon States participating in the negotiations on a protocol on biosafety to work constructively to bring this process to a satisfactory conclusion;

6. *Welcomes* decision IV/15, adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting,[126] in which it stressed the need to ensure consistency in implementing the Convention and World Trade Organization agreements, including the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights,[127] with a view to promoting increased mutual supportiveness and integration of biological diversity concerns and the protection of intellectual property rights;

7. *Reaffirms* paragraph 10 of decision IV/15, in which the Conference of the Parties emphasized that further work is required to help develop a common appreciation of the relationship between intellectual property rights and the relevant provisions of the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and the Convention on Biological Diversity, in particular on issues relating to technology transfer and conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources, including the protection of knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity;

8. *Takes note* of the fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice of the Conference of the Parties, including its recommendation IV/5 on the consequences of the use of the new technology for the control of plant gene expression for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity;[128]

9. *Stresses* the importance of the implementation of the Convention at all levels, including through the preparation and implementation of national strategies, plans and programmes, taking into account the need for financial resources to support the implementation activities, in particular those of developing countries, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and the decisions of the Conference of the Parties;

10. *Encourages* those States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so as soon as possible;

11. *Takes note* of the meeting of the Panel of Experts on Access and Benefit-sharing, established in accordance with decision IV/8, adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting;[126]

12. *Recognizes* the importance of national action to conserve biological diversity in many habitats, including forests, wetlands and coastal areas, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, in particular article 8, and the need to mobilize national and international support for such national actions;

13. *Welcomes* the offer of Spain to host, at Seville in March 2000, the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-sessional Working Group on article 8 (*j*) of the Convention regarding the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities, and encourages Governments to include representatives of indigenous and local communities on their delegations to that meeting;

14. *Recognizes* the utility of information exchange, and encourages the development of biodiversity information networks at the national, regional and international levels by way of the clearing-house mechanism;

15. *Encourages* the conferences of the parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[129] the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[130] to examine further appropriate opportunities and measures to strengthen their complementarities and improve scientific assessments of ecological linkages between the three conventions;

16. *Encourages* the secretariats of various environmental and environment-related conventions and other international organizations, with full respect for the status of the respective convention secretariats and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the conferences of the parties to the conventions concerned, to strengthen cooperation with a view to facilitating progress in their implementation at the international, regional and national levels;

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[128] See UNEP/CBD/COP/5/2.

[129] A/AC.237/18 (Part II)/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex I.

[130] A/49/84/Add.2, annex, appendix II.

17. *Invites* all funding institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as regional funding institutions and non-governmental organizations, to cooperate with the secretariat of the Convention in the implementation of the programme of work;

18. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to settle urgently any arrears and to pay their contributions in full and in a timely manner so as to ensure continuity in the cash flows required to finance the ongoing work of the Conference of the Parties, the subsidiary bodies and the Convention secretariat;

19. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to report to the General Assembly on the ongoing work regarding the Convention;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".

RESOLUTION 54/222

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/588/Add.4)

54/222. Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/115 of 20 December 1995, 51/184 of 16 December 1996 and 52/199 of 18 December 1997 and other resolutions relating to the protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind,

Noting with satisfaction that most States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified or acceded to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[131]

Noting that, to date, the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[132] has attracted sixteen ratifications, and encouraging necessary action to facilitate the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol at the earliest possible date,

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Argentina for hosting the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held from 2 to 14 November 1998, which culminated in the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action,[133]

Noting that the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change was held at Bonn, Germany, from 25 October to 5 November 1999,

Taking note of decision 1/CP.5 adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its fifth session,[134] stressing the importance of a successful outcome to the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties, in particular in reaching decisions on the early and full implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, and welcoming, in that decision, the agreement to an intensified negotiating process leading to the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties,

Welcoming the generous offer of the Government of the Netherlands to host the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties, and urging the Parties to undertake thorough preparations to advance progress at that session,

Taking note of the decision of the Conference of the Parties at its fifth session to approve the continuation of the institutional linkage of the Convention secretariat to the United Nations, subject to review not later than 31 December 2001, in consultation with the Secretary-General, with a view to making such modifications as may be desirable by both parties,[135]

Taking note also of the decision of the Conference of the Parties whereby the General Assembly is invited to decide, at its fifty-fourth session, on the issue of meeting the Convention's conference-servicing expenses from its regular budget, taking into account the views expressed by Member States,[136]

Noting the oral report of the Secretary-General and the advice on the continuation of the institutional linkage of the Convention secretariat to the United Nations,

Noting also that, by paragraph 9 of resolution 50/115, the Secretary-General was requested to make the necessary arrangements to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 1998–1999 those sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies that the Conference may need to convene in that period,

1. *Encourages* Member States that have not ratified or acceded to the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[132] to do so with a view to bringing it into force;

2. *Calls upon* all States parties to continue to take effective steps to implement their commitments under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[131] in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities;

3. *Encourages* all countries to work constructively towards advancing the work necessary for the timely entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol and its implementation;

4. *Approves* the continuation of the institutional linkage of the Convention secretariat to the United Nations, as advised by the Secretary-General and approved by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth session;[135]

5. *Encourages* the conferences of the parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity[137] and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those

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[131] A/AC.237/18 (Part II)/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex I.

[132] FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.3.

[133] FCCC/CP/1998/16/Add.1, decision 1/CP.4.

[134] See FCCC/CP/1999/6/Add.1.

[135] Ibid., decision 22/CP.5, para. 2.

[136] Ibid., para. 1.

[137] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[138] to examine further appropriate opportunities and measures to strengthen their complementarities and to improve scientific assessments of ecological linkages between the three conventions;

6. *Encourages* the secretariats of various environmental and environment-related conventions and other international organizations, with full respect for the status of the respective convention secretariats and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the conferences of the parties of the conventions concerned, to strengthen cooperation with a view to facilitating progress in their implementation at the international, regional and national levels;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the functioning of this institutional linkage not later than 31 December 2001, in consultation with the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, with a view to making such modifications as may be considered desirable by both parties, and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

8. *Decides* to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 2000–2001 the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies envisaged for that biennium, in accordance with the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties;

9. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind".

RESOLUTION 54/223

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/588/Add.5)

54/223. Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/191 of 15 December 1998 and other resolutions relating to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[139]

Noting with satisfaction that, as indicated in paragraph 19 of its resolution 52/198 of 18 December 1997, the second session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention was held at Dakar from 30 November to 11 December 1998,

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Senegal for the generous manner in which it hosted and provided facilities for the second session of the Conference of the Parties,

Expressing its deep appreciation also to the Government of Brazil for the generous offer to host the third session of the Conference of the Parties,

Welcoming the allocation of additional resources to the Global Mechanism by the Conference of the Parties at its third session,

Looking forward to the continued efforts of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies in addressing desertification, land degradation and drought issues,

Acknowledging that desertification and drought are problems of a global dimension in that they affect all regions of the world and that joint action of the international community is needed to combat desertification and to mitigate the effects of drought,

Stressing the need, *inter alia*, to integrate strategies for poverty eradication into efforts to combat desertification and to mitigate the effects of drought,

Noting with satisfaction that an increasing number of countries and one regional economic integration organization have ratified or acceded to the Convention,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the second session of the Conference of the Parties and on the implementation of resolution 53/191,[140]

1. *Welcomes* the convening of the third session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, at Recife, Brazil, from 15 to 26 November 1999;

2. *Calls upon* all States and other actors to contribute effectively to the successful outcome of the third session of the Conference of the Parties;

3. *Also calls upon* all remaining countries that are not yet parties to the Convention to ratify or accede to the Convention as soon as possible;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of implementing the provisions of the Convention at all levels, including the general provisions and obligations of affected and developed countries;

5. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Convention secretariat was relocated to Bonn, Germany, at the end of January 1999 and that it has begun functioning as the permanent secretariat of the Convention;

6. *Notes* that the Global Mechanism started its activities early in 1999, that it has not yet begun to support fully, *inter alia*, enabling activities under the Convention, and that resources have been made available to it, and invites the Global Mechanism to develop effectively all its activities and support under the Convention;

7. *Also notes* the decision of the Conference of the Parties at its third session related to the first review of policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism,[141] and, in this context, urges donors, international organizations and the Global Mechanism, within its mandate, to support the preparation of national reports;

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[138] A/49/84/Add.2, annex, appendix II.

[139] Ibid.

[140] A/54/96.

[141] ICCD/COP(3)/20/Add.1, decision 9/COP.3.

8. *Welcomes* the steps being taken by affected developing country parties to the Convention, with the assistance of international organizations, to implement the Convention and the efforts being made to promote the participation of all actors of society in the elaboration of national, subregional and regional action programmes to combat desertification;

9. *Also welcomes* the efforts made by affected African country parties, developed country parties, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to produce and to submit reports for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its third session;

10. *Requests* the Global Mechanism, in conformity with the provisions of the Convention and the relevant decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties at its first, second and third sessions, to carry out effectively its mandate of assisting affected developing country parties in the implementation of the Convention;

11. *Calls upon* the secretariat of the Convention and the Global Mechanism to cooperate fully in carrying out their activities, as provided for in their respective mandates;

12. *Welcomes* the financial support already provided on a voluntary basis by some countries, and urges Governments, the private sector and all relevant organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to make or to continue to make voluntary contributions to the Global Mechanism to enable it to implement effectively and fully its mandate;

13. *Also welcomes* the contributions paid by some country parties, and calls upon all parties that have not done so to pay promptly and in full the contributions required for the core budget of the Convention envisaged in the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties,[142] so as to ensure continuity in the cash flow required to finance the ongoing work of the Conference, the subsidiary bodies, the permanent secretariat and the Global Mechanism;

14. *Further welcomes* the initial contribution made by the International Fund for Agricultural Development to the Special Resources for the Convention to Combat Desertification Finance Account, and invites the Fund to make available as soon as possible the remaining balance to the Account, in conformity with its pledge made at the first session of the Conference of the Parties in Rome;

15. *Invites* all other relevant organizations and programmes, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and other members of the Facilitation Committee of the Global Mechanism, also to make contributions to enable the Global Mechanism to support successfully the implementation of the Convention;

16. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Secretary-General, in conformity with paragraph 11 of resolution 52/198, closed, on 31 December 1998, the Trust Fund and the Special Voluntary Fund established under the provisions of General Assembly resolution 47/188 of 22 December 1992 and transferred the amounts remaining in the Trust Fund and in the Special Voluntary Fund, respectively, to the Supplementary Fund and the Special Fund established on 1 January 1999, in accordance with the relevant paragraphs of the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties;[143]

17. *Calls upon* Governments, multilateral financial institutions, regional development banks, regional economic integration organizations and all other interested organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to contribute generously to the General Fund, the Supplementary Fund and the Special Fund, in accordance with the relevant paragraphs of the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties;[143]

18. *Decides* to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 2000–2001 the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies, including the fourth and fifth ordinary sessions of the Conference of the Parties and the meetings of its subsidiary bodies;

19. *Notes with appreciation* that some affected developing countries and one region have adopted their national and regional action programmes, and therefore calls upon the international community to contribute to the implementation of those programmes through, *inter alia*, the conclusion of partnership agreements, relevant bilateral and multilateral cooperation programmes that are available to implement the Convention and contributions from non-governmental organizations and the private sector;

20. *Invites* affected developing countries that have not yet adopted their national action programmes, and, where appropriate, regional and subregional action programmes, to accelerate the process of elaboration and adoption of their action programmes with a view to finalizing them no later than the end of 2000;

21. *Calls upon* the international community, in particular the developed countries and the United Nations system, and invites the multilateral financial institutions, the private sector and all other interested actors to support the efforts of affected developing countries in the processes of elaborating and implementing action programmes to combat desertification, including, as appropriate, interregional programmes and platforms of cooperation, by providing them with financial resources and other forms of assistance;

22. *Welcomes* the progress made in producing a draft additional regional implementation annex to the Convention for the countries of Eastern and Central Europe with a view to adopting it at the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties, and invites those countries to continue their efforts towards acceding to the Convention;

23. *Encourages* the conferences of the parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[144] the Convention on Biological Diversity[145] and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, to examine further appropriate opportunities and measures to strengthen the

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[142] ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1, decision 2/COP.1, annex, para. 14.

[143] Ibid., paras. 7–11.

[144] A/AC.237/18 (Part II)/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex I.

[145] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

complementarities and to improve scientific assessments of ecological linkages among the three conventions;

24. *Also encourages* the secretariats of various environmental and environment-related conventions and other international organizations, with full respect for the statutes of the respective convention secretariats and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the conferences of the parties to the conventions concerned, to strengthen cooperation with a view to facilitating progress in their implementation at the international, regional, subregional and national levels;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, as well as on the outcome of the third session of the Conference of the Parties;

26. *Reminds* the States parties to the Convention that, in accordance with General Assembly decision 52/445 of 18 December 1997, beginning in 2000, the conferences of the parties to the conventions signed at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development or established as a result of the Conference, as well as other conventions relating to sustainable development, shall take all appropriate measures to avoid convening their sessions and those of their subsidiary bodies during the sessions of the General Assembly;

27. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa".

RESOLUTION 54/224

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/588/Add.6)

54/224. Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

Recalling also its resolutions 51/183 of 16 December 1996, 52/202 of 18 December 1997 and 53/189 of 15 December 1998,

Recognizing that small island developing States face special challenges and vulnerabilities of both an environmental and an economic nature in their efforts to achieve sustainable development,

Recalling the Declaration[illegible] and review document[illegible] adopted at the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly,

Noting the significant efforts being made at the national and regional levels and the need for them to be supplemented by effective financial support from the international community,

Bearing in mind the over three hundred projects that were presented for financing within the context of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[illegible] at the meeting of representatives of donors and small island developing States held in New York from 24 to 26 February 1999,[illegible]

1. *Reiterates* the significance of the effective implementation of the Declaration[illegible] and review document[illegible] adopted at the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the Declaration and review document to the various organs of the United Nations system and the regional commissions and organizations, taking into account the areas identified in the review document for priority action, and urges them to take the action necessary for further implementation and effective follow-up;

3. *Calls upon* Governments, the regional commissions and organizations and other intergovernmental organizations to support the efforts of the small island developing States, taking into account those areas identified in the review document for priority action, and urges them to take the action necessary for the further implementation of and effective follow-up to the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;[illegible]

4. *Calls upon* all stakeholders, in particular local communities, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to take the action necessary for the further implementation of and effective follow-up to the Programme of Action;

5. *Emphasizes* the need for the provision of resources for the further implementation of the Programme of Action;

6. *Urges* all relevant organizations to finalize, preferably before the end of 2000, the work on the development of a vulnerability index, in particular for the small island developing States, which would assist in defining the vulnerability of those States and in identifying the challenges to their sustainable development, for consideration by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly at the appropriate time;

7. *Welcomes* the acknowledgement by the Committee for Development Policy that the concept of vulnerability should be included explicitly in the identification criteria for the least developed countries,[illegible] and notes the ongoing discussions on the new criteria proposed by the Committee;

8. *Calls upon* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to give substantive consideration in its work to the Declaration and review document, including in its preparations for its tenth session;

[illegible] See resolution S-22/2, annex.

[illegible] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[illegible] See A/S-22/4.

[illegible] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 13* (E/1999/33), chap. I.C.

9. *Invites* the Commission on Sustainable Development to consider in its work programme, as appropriate, matters relating to the further implementation of the Programme of Action, bearing in mind the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly;[193]

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", a sub-item entitled "Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States";

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/225

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/588/Add.6)

54/225. Promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the principles and commitments enshrined in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[194] adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992, and the principles embodied in the Declaration of Barbados[195] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[196] adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in 1994, as well as other relevant declarations and international instruments,

Recalling the Declaration[197] and review document[197] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,

Recalling also the relevant work done by the International Maritime Organization,

Taking into account all other relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly,

Reaffirming the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea[198] and emphasizing the fundamental character of the Convention,

Recalling the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, signed at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 24 March 1983, which contains the definition of the wider Caribbean region of which the Caribbean Sea is part,[199]

Considering that the Caribbean Sea area includes a large number of States, countries and territories, most of which are developing countries and small island developing States which are ecologically fragile and economically vulnerable and also affected, *inter alia*, by their limited capacity, narrow resource base, need for financial resources, social problems, high levels of poverty and the challenges and opportunities of globalization,

Considering also that the Caribbean Sea area, nearly all of which is separated from the open ocean by either continental or insular land masses, is characterized by a unique biodiversity and highly fragile ecosystems, such as the second largest coral reef system in the world, the heavy reliance of most States, countries and territories on their coastal areas and the marine environment in general to achieve their sustainable development needs and goals, the number and interlocking character of the maritime areas under national sovereignty and jurisdiction, which present a challenge to the effective management of resources, the intensive use of the Caribbean Sea area for maritime transportation and, notwithstanding the increase in the number of regulatory measures, the threat of pollution from ship-generated waste and from the release of hazardous and noxious substances in violation of relevant international rules and standards,

Emphasizing that the Caribbean countries have a high degree of vulnerability occasioned by climate change and variability, associated phenomena, such as the rise in sea level, the El Niño/Southern Oscillation phenomenon and the increase in the frequency and intensity of natural disasters caused by hurricanes, floods and droughts and that they are also subject to natural disasters, such as those caused by volcanoes, tsunamis and earthquakes,

Mindful of the strong interaction and competition among socio-economic activities in the countries of the region for the use of the coastal areas and the marine environment and their resources,

Mindful also of the efforts made by the Caribbean countries to address, in a more holistic manner, the sectoral issues relating to the management of the Caribbean Sea and in so doing to promote an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea in the context of sustainable development,

Noting the efforts of Caribbean countries, within the framework of the Association of Caribbean States, to develop further and seek recognition of the concept of the Caribbean Sea as an area of special importance in the context of sustainable development,

Cognizant of the importance of the Caribbean Sea area to present and future generations and its importance to the heritage, the continuing economic well-being and the sustenance of people living in the area and the urgent need for the countries of the region to take appropriate steps for its preservation and protection, with the support of the international community,

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[193] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-second Special Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/S-22/9/Rev.1).

[194] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex I.

[195] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[196] Ibid., annex II.

[197] See resolution S-22/2, annex.

[198] *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea*, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

[199] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1506, No. 25974.

Noting the problem of marine pollution caused, *inter alia*, by land-based sources in the Caribbean Sea area,

1. *Recognizes* the importance of adopting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development;

2. *Encourages* the further development of the integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development, which will include environmental, economic, social, legal and institutional elements and will take into account the experience gained, as well as the provisions of Agenda 21,[157] the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[153] the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly and the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, in conformity with relevant international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;[155]

3. *Calls upon* the Caribbean countries to develop further an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development;

4. *Also calls upon* the international community and the United Nations system, in particular the relevant agencies, actively to support efforts to develop further and implement the above-mentioned approach;

5. *Further calls upon* Member States to give priority to improving their emergency response capabilities and to increasing their participation in existing mechanisms so as to allow for a timely, effective and coordinated response to natural disasters and for the containment of environmental damage in the Caribbean Sea area in the event of an accident or incident relating to maritime transport;

6. *Invites* all parties concerned to take action, as appropriate, to address land-based sources of marine pollution;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, under a sub-item entitled "Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" of the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account the views expressed by relevant regional organizations.

RESOLUTION 54/226

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/589)

54/226. Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

The General Assembly,

Stressing that South-South cooperation, as an important element of international cooperation for development, offers viable opportunities for developing countries in their individual and collective pursuit of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions and recent United Nations conferences and for ensuring their effective and meaningful participation in the newly emerging global economic system,

Recognizing the fact that developing countries have the primary responsibility for promoting and implementing economic and technical cooperation among themselves, and reiterating the need for the international community to support the efforts of the developing countries to expand South-South cooperation through the modality of economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

Reaffirming its resolutions 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[158] 46/159 of 19 December 1991 on technical cooperation among developing countries, 49/96 of 19 December 1994 on a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation and 50/119 of 20 December 1995 and 52/205 of 18 December 1997 on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation, as well as other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

Welcoming the San José Declaration and Plan of Action[159] adopted by the Group of 77 at the South-South Conference on Trade, Investment and Finance, held at San José from 13 to 15 January 1997, which outlined concrete modalities on sectoral issues relating to trade, finance and investment and enterprise cooperation,

Taking note of the Ministerial Declaration on the South Summit[160] adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 at their twenty-third annual meeting, held in New York on 24 September 1999, in which the increased importance and relevance of South-South cooperation was emphasized,

Recognizing the important contribution that the forthcoming South Summit, to be held at Havana in April 2000, could provide for the strengthening of South-South cooperation,

1. *Endorses* the report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries on its eleventh session[161] and the decisions adopted by the High-level Committee at that session;[162]

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[157] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[158] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August–12 September 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

[159] A/C.2/52/8, annex.

[160] A/54/432, annex I.

[161] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 39* (A/54/39).

[162] Ibid., annex I.

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation;[163]

3. *Reiterates* that South-South cooperation should be viewed not as a substitute for but rather as a complement to North-South cooperation, and in that connection emphasizes the need to promote effectively, *inter alia*, triangular approaches to facilitate South-South programmes and projects;

4. *Recognizes* the significant role of economic and technical cooperation between developing countries and countries with economies in transition in promoting implementation of South-South programmes and projects;

5. *Welcomes* the significant increase in South-South cooperation among developing countries, both in number and in sectoral coverage, reported by developing countries and the United Nations system;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the recent expansion in the scope of economic cooperation among developing countries, with increasing cooperation among business sectors and enterprises in different countries, including through the Trade Point Programme of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the buyers and sellers meetings of the International Trade Centre and the business forums and Enterprise Forums of the International Labour Organization, and encourages those United Nations organizations to document and to disseminate their experiences, lessons and operational methodologies for future application;

7. *Also notes with appreciation* the growing economic cooperation among developing countries with increasing mutual trade and investment, as well as industrial and technical cooperation, including in the context of small and medium-sized enterprises;

8. *Welcomes* the successful conclusion of the second round of negotiations on the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries, and invites participating countries to join in efforts towards deepening, accelerating and expanding the Global System to enhance its impact;

9. *Recognizes* the progress achieved in a number of developing countries in strengthening human and institutional capacities, *inter alia*, in such areas as education, health, biotechnology, information and communications technology, space technology, financial sector management and microfinance, the sharing of which would be beneficial to enhancing growth and development in other developing countries, and urges the international community, particularly bilateral and multilateral donors, to continue to assist the capacity-building efforts of developing countries in these areas;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the growing number of developed countries participating in triangular cooperation, encourages the use of such cooperation by other countries, and in this context requests the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries of the United Nations Development Programme, in collaboration with the countries that have been supporting such cooperation, to seek innovative ways to document and disseminate relevant lessons learned on the basis of progress achieved and problems encountered and to identify options for the exploitation of the full potential of such cooperation;

11. *Also notes with appreciation* the contribution made by some countries to the Voluntary Trust Fund for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation and to the Perez-Guerrero Trust Fund for Economic and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, and invites all countries, in particular developed countries, to contribute to the Trust Funds;

12. *Calls upon* all Governments and all relevant United Nations organizations and multilateral and regional financial institutions to consider increasing allocations of financial resources for economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and to strengthen funding modalities to promote South-South cooperation, such as triangular cooperation and private sector funding;

13. *Encourages* developing countries and relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, as well as other partners in development efforts, in the practice of technical and economic cooperation among developing countries, to develop and to support innovative mechanisms to foster South-South cooperation in science and technology, with particular emphasis on the development and the sharing of high technologies and appropriate technologies, with a view to their better utilization for the growth and the development of developing countries;

14. *Stresses*, in this context, that South-South cooperation in science and technology is not a replacement for but a complement to traditional North-South cooperation in science and technology, in particular appropriate North-South technology transfer;

15. *Emphasizes* the need for concerted action by developing countries and their development partners, including relevant international organizations, with a view to strengthening cooperation and collaboration among developing countries at the subregional, regional and interregional levels;

16. *Reiterates its invitation* to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, as well as other relevant organizations, taking into account their agreed mandates, work programmes and priorities, to undertake jointly further work on formulating concrete recommendations on the implementation of and follow-up to the Caracas Programme of Action,[164] adopted at the High-level Conference on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries, held at Caracas in May 1981, as an important mechanism for economic cooperation among developing countries, and the San José Declaration and Plan of Action[165] adopted by the Group of 77 at the South-South Conference on Trade, Investment and Finance, as well as on the Bali Declaration on Regional and Subregional Economic Cooperation of the Developing Countries[165] and the Bali Plan of Action on Regional and Subregional Economic Cooperation of the Developing Countries[166] adopted by the Group of 77

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[163] A/54/425.

[164] A/36/333 and Corr.1, annex.

[165] A/53/739, annex I.

[166] Ibid., annex II.

High-level Conference on Regional and Subregional Economic Cooperation of the Developing Countries, held on Bali, Indonesia, from 2 to 5 December 1998, within the context of South-South cooperation;

17. *Requests* the United Nations system to take appropriate measures to improve the effective incorporation of technical cooperation among developing countries into its programmes and projects and to intensify efforts towards mainstreaming the modality of technical cooperation among developing countries, including through support to the activities of the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, and encourages other relevant international institutions to take similar measures;

18. *Reiterates its request* to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to ensure that the separate identity of the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries is maintained and that the Unit is supported so that it may fully implement its mandate and system-wide responsibilities for promoting, monitoring and coordinating technical cooperation among developing countries;

19. *Stresses* the need, with reference to decision 11/3 adopted by the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries at its eleventh session[162] and the provisional agenda for the twelfth session of the High-level Committee approved therein, to take appropriate measures to ensure the necessary level of attendance of all member States in the meeting of the High-level Committee, including through discussions of country experiences at the field level, in terms of progress achieved, problems encountered and lessons learned;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the sub-item entitled "Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries", and in that context requests the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to submit to it at that session a report on the state of South-South cooperation and a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/227

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/589)

54/227. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 37/248 of 21 December 1982 and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions on the promotion of cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community,

Commending States members of the Community for demonstrating continued commitment to deeper and more formal arrangements for cooperation among themselves towards regional integration,

Noting the signing of Community protocols on wildlife conservation, law enforcement and health and the establishment of the Association of Southern African Development Community National Chambers of Commerce, as well as the adoption of a declaration on productivity, which are further steps towards enhancing regional cooperation,

Recognizing the strengthening of democratic governance and other positive developments, including the consolidation of peace, the enhancement of democracy and the respect for the rule of law in the region, through the creation of institutions to further regional integration, such as the Parliamentary Forum, the Electoral Forum and the Lawyers Association of the Community,

Reaffirming that the successful implementation of the development programmes of the Community can be achieved only if the Community has adequate resources at its disposal,

Noting that the effects of armed conflict, resulting in the loss of life and the destruction of economic and social infrastructures in southern Africa, demand the continuation and the strengthening of rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes to regenerate the economies of the countries of the region,

Welcoming the Community's efforts to make southern Africa a landmine-free zone,

Noting with grave concern that adverse weather conditions have created a regional cereal deficit in 1999-2000, with a risk of increased poverty, in particular in rural areas,

Recognizing the valuable and effective economic and financial contribution that some organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and the international community have made to complementing national and subregional efforts to advance the process of democratization, rehabilitation and development in southern Africa,

Reiterating that the primary cause of the present situation in Angola is the failure of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, under the leadership of Jonas Savimbi, to comply with its obligations under the Peace Accords,[167] the Lusaka Protocol[168] and the relevant Security Council resolutions,

Expressing its grave concern at the serious deterioration of an already dire humanitarian situation in Angola caused by the current conditions in the country, which is also hampering efforts towards economic rehabilitation and national reconstruction as well as regional development projects,

Expressing its satisfaction over the initiatives to bring peace to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, launched by the Community under the leadership of President F. J. T. Chiluba of Zambia, in collaboration with the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations and other entities,

Welcoming with satisfaction the signing at Lusaka, on 10 July 1999, of the Ceasefire Agreement[169] by all parties involved in the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the

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[167] S/22609; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1991*.

[168] S/1994/1441; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-ninth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1994*.

[169] S/1999/815, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999*.

Congo as a step forward towards a durable peace in that country,

Noting with concern the high prevalence in the region of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, which has far-reaching social and economic consequences,

Reaffirming the recognition of the important role that women play in the development of the region,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[170]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the international community for the financial, technical and material support given to the Southern African Development Community;

3. *Appeals* to the international community and to relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to continue providing, where appropriate, financial, technical and material assistance to the Community in order to enable it to implement fully its programme of action and to meet the reconstruction and rehabilitation needs of the region and to advance further the process of regional economic integration;

4. *Calls upon* the States Members of the United Nations and organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that have not yet established contact and relationships with the Community to explore the possibility of so doing;

5. *Appeals* to the United Nations, its related bodies and the international community to assist and to support the Community in its efforts against landmines, and calls upon the States members of the Community to continue to strengthen their efforts in this regard;

6. *Also appeals* to the United Nations, its related bodies and the international community to assist the Community, with the appropriate resources, in implementing the programmes and decisions adopted by various United Nations world conferences, with specific emphasis on the enhancement of the role of women in the development process, and in this regard welcomes the establishment of the Southern African Development Community Women in Business Network, aimed at empowering women through, *inter alia*, facilitating and enhancing their access to credit and to training in business and technical skills;

7. *Appeals* to the international community to support the measures being taken by the Community in addressing human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, including proposals for key future actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development;[171]

8. *Appeals* to the international community and to the United Nations system to continue to extend much-needed assistance to those countries of the Community that are engaged in the process of national reconstruction so as to enable them to consolidate democracy and to enhance the implementation of their national development programmes;

9. *Appeals* to the international community to comply with all relevant Security Council resolutions on Angola pertaining to sanctions imposed on the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, which, together with other efforts, would help to bring peace and to facilitate the process of rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Angolan economy;

10. *Urges* the international community to take appropriate action, especially by providing humanitarian assistance, to prevent the suffering of the Angolan people, in particular children, women and the elderly, urges the Angolan authorities to continue to facilitate the assistance and the delivery of such assistance, and urges all other relevant parties to the conflict to do their utmost in this regard;

11. *Calls upon* the international community, in particular the United Nations, to continue to contribute to the promotion of peace and stability in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to assist in the rehabilitation and economic reconstruction of that country;

12. *Urges* all parties to the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement[169] to work towards its full implementation and to cooperate in this regard with the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity;

13. *Urges* the international community to continue to assist those countries receiving refugees in coping with the resulting economic, social, humanitarian and environmental challenges;

14. *Appeals* to the United Nations and the international community to assist in the strengthening of the region's capacity for sustainable water resource management and to respond generously with respect to the drought situation in southern Africa by supporting the region in its drought preparedness and management strategies;

15. *Calls upon* the international community to consider supporting the creation of special economic zones and development corridors in the Community, with the active participation of the private sector, while recognizing the responsibilities and the ongoing efforts of the countries concerned to create the necessary environment, including the appropriate legal and economic framework for such activities;

16. *Also calls upon* the international community to support the efforts of the Community to address the consequences, new challenges and opportunities presented to the economies of the region arising from the process of globalization and liberalization;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Secretary of the Southern African Development Community, to continue to intensify contacts aimed at promoting and harmonizing cooperation between the United Nations and the Community;

18. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[170] A/54/273.

[171] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

RESOLUTION 54/228

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/590)

54/228. United Nations Staff College in Turin, Italy

The General Assembly,

Recalling the decision taken by the Secretary-General in January 1996 to establish, in Turin, Italy, the United Nations Staff College project for an initial period of five years,

Reaffirming the importance of a coordinated United Nations system-wide approach to research and to training based on an effective division of labour among the relevant institutions and bodies,

Noting, in this respect, the pertinent recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit,[172]

Taking note of Economic and Social Council decision 1999/271 of 28 July 1999,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the progress report submitted by the Director of the United Nations Staff College[173] on the activities undertaken so far by the College, in particular those aimed at strengthening the performance of the United Nations in the areas of economic and social development and international peace and security and promoting a common United Nations management culture;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the relevant technical, logistic and administrative contributions provided by the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consult with the Administrative Committee on Coordination and the relevant United Nations organizations and to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the College, based on a full and independent evaluation of the implementation and the completion of the activities undertaken by the College, incorporating the College's corporate plan and programme of action, and including recommendations on the future status, funding and operations of the College after the conclusion of its pilot phase in December 2000.

RESOLUTION 54/229

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/590)

54/229. United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/207 of 21 December 1993, 49/125 of 19 December 1994, 50/121 of 20 December 1995, 51/188 of 16 December 1996, 52/206 of 18 December 1997 and 53/195 of 15 December 1998,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[174] and the reflections of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research on the development and possible reorganization of the Institute,[175]

Welcoming the efforts towards consolidation of the restructuring process of the Institute and the recent progress made by the Institute in its various programmes and activities, including the improved cooperation that has been established with other organizations of the United Nations system and with regional and national institutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the Governments and private institutions that have made or pledged financial and other contributions to the Institute,

Noting that contributions to the General Fund of the Institute have not increased along with the increased participation of the developed countries in the training programmes, and stressing the urgent need to address this discrepancy,

Reiterating that training activities should be accorded a more visible and larger role in support of the management of international affairs and in the execution of the economic and social development programmes of the United Nations system,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of a coordinated United Nations system-wide approach to research and training, and underlines the need for United Nations training and research institutions to avoid duplication in their work;

2. *Also reaffirms* the relevance of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, in view of the growing importance of training within the United Nations and the training requirements of States, and the relevance of research activities related to training undertaken by the Institute within its mandate;

3. *Stresses* the need for the Institute to strengthen further its cooperation with other United Nations institutes and relevant national, regional and international institutes;

4. *Welcomes* the progress made in building partnerships between the Institute and other agencies and bodies of the United Nations system with respect to their training programmes, and, in this context, underlines the need to develop further and to expand the scope of these partnerships, particularly at the country level;

5. *Stresses* the need for continuity in the management of the Institute in order to ensure efficient and effective completion of the process of restructuring and revitalization;

6. *Requests* the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research to intensify its efforts to attract experts from developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the preparation of the relevant training materials for the programmes and activities of the Institute, and stresses that the Institute's courses should focus primarily on development issues;

7. *Renews its appeal* to all Governments, in particular those of developed countries, and to private institutions that

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[172] See A/52/559, annex.

[173] A/54/481.

[174] A/54/480.

[175] A/54/390, annex.

have not yet contributed financially or otherwise to the Institute to give it their generous financial and other support, and urges the States that have interrupted their voluntary contributions to consider resuming them in view of the successful restructuring and revitalization of the Institute;

8. *Encourages* the Board of Trustees of the Institute to continue its efforts to address the discrepancy between the decline in contributions to the General Fund of the Institute and the increase in participation in its programmes;

9. *Also encourages* the Board of Trustees to consider organizing events of the Institute at additional sites, including the cities hosting regional commissions, in order to promote greater participation and to reduce costs;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Institute and with United Nations funds and programmes, to continue to explore ways and means systematically to utilize the Institute in the execution of training and capacity-building programmes;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the services rendered by the Executive Director of the Institute in the light of the challenges emanating from the increased responsibilities encountered by his office;

12. *Renews its call* to the Secretary-General to continue to explore all possible ways and means to provide additional facilities to the Institute for maintaining its offices and for conducting programmes and training courses that are provided at no cost to States and to their representatives accredited to United Nations offices in New York, Nairobi, Geneva and Vienna;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/230

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 145 to 3, with 6 abstentions,[176] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/591)

54/230. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/196 of 15 December 1998 and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/53 of 29 July 1999,

Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of peoples under foreign occupation over their natural resources,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[177] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Expressing its concern at the exploitation by Israel, the occupying Power, of the natural resources of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Aware of the additional, detrimental economic and social impact of the Israeli settlements on Palestinian and other Arab natural resources, especially the confiscation of land and the forced diversion of water resources,

Expressing the hope that the Middle East peace process, which started at Madrid on 30 October 1991, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and the principle of land for peace, will reach a final settlement within the agreed time-frame, and that final settlement will be reached on all tracks,

1. *Takes note* of the report transmitted by the Secretary-General;[178]

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and the population of the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources, including land and water;

3. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, not to exploit, to cause loss or depletion of or to endanger the natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan;

4. *Recognizes* the right of the Palestinian people to claim restitution as a result of any exploitation, loss or depletion of, or danger to, their natural resources, and expresses the hope that this issue will be dealt with in the framework of the final status negotiations between the Palestinian and Israeli sides;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources".

RESOLUTION 54/231

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/592)

54/231. Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/169 of 15 December 1998,

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[176] For details, see annex II.

[177] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[178] A/54/152-E/1999/92, annex.

Recognizing the challenges and opportunities of globalization and interdependence,

Expressing its serious concern over the increasing risks of marginalization of a large number of developing countries from the globalization process, including in the finance, trade and technology sectors, and the additional vulnerability of those developing countries that are in the process of integrating into the world economy, resulting in particular from the volatility of short-term capital flows and the accentuation of income disparities within and among countries,

Recognizing that globalization and interdependence are opening new opportunities through trade, investment and capital flows, and advancements in technology, including information technology, for the growth of the world economy, for development and for the improvement of living standards around the world,

Emphasizing that the international systems dealing with development, finance, trade and transfer of technology should further address the negative impacts of globalization on developing countries,

Expressing its grave concern over the generally widening technological gap between the developed and developing countries, particularly in the area of information and communication technology, which is shaping the contours of globalization,

Mindful, in the process of trade liberalization, of the diminution of trade preferential margins for developing countries, particularly the least developed countries and small island developing States, and of the need for countries to take measures, as appropriate, in accordance with the rules of the World Trade Organization, to address that diminution with a view to offsetting it,

Underlining the need to continue to work on a wide range of reforms in order to create a strengthened international financial system,

Recognizing the importance of appropriate policy responses at the national level by all countries to the challenges of globalization, in particular by pursuing sound macroeconomic and social policies, noting the need for support from the international community for the efforts of the least developed countries, in particular, to improve their institutional and management capacities, and also recognizing that all countries should pursue policies conducive to economic growth and to promoting a favourable global economic environment,

Underlining the importance of promoting the integration of developing countries into the world economy in order to enable them to take the fullest possible advantage of the trading opportunities arising from globalization and liberalization,

Underscoring the urgent need to mitigate the negative consequences of globalization and interdependence for all developing countries, including landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and, in particular, African countries and the least developed countries,

Convinced of the need, in the context of globalization and interdependence, to develop and to implement policies to promote equity, transparency and inclusion, with the goal of promoting development, particularly of developing countries,

Reiterating that the United Nations, as a universal forum, is in a unique position to achieve international cooperation in addressing the challenges of promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Convinced that the United Nations has a key role to play in fostering greater coherence, complementarity and coordination in addressing economic and development issues at the global level,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[179]

Taking note also of the *Human Development Report, 1999*,[180] which focuses on globalization with a human face,

Taking note further, in the context of globalization and interdependence, of the ongoing work of the Commonwealth Secretariat/World Bank Joint Task Force on Small States,

Noting with appreciation that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, at its tenth session, to be held at Bangkok from 12 to 19 February 2000, will focus on "Development strategies in an increasingly interdependent world: applying the lessons of the past to make globalization an effective instrument for the development of all countries and all people",

Welcoming the decision of the Economic and Social Council to devote the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2000 to the theme "Development and international cooperation in the twenty-first century: the role of information technology in the context of a knowledge-based global economy",[181]

1. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations has a central role to play in promoting international cooperation for development and in promoting greater policy coherence on global development issues, including in the context of globalization and interdependence;

2. *Strongly stresses* that the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization should intensify their collaboration, as appropriate, in promoting policy coherence, complementarity and coordination on economic, financial, trade and development issues at the global level, which should aim at optimizing the benefits and minimizing the negative consequences of globalization, liberalization and interdependence, taking into account the specific vulnerabilities, concerns and needs of developing countries;

3. *Calls* for increased international cooperation to address the challenges of globalization through the enhanced participation of developing countries in the international economic policy decision-making process; integrated consideration of trade, finance, technology transfer and development issues by the relevant international institutions; and the continuation of a wide range of reforms of the international financial system;

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[179] A/54/358.

[180] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.99.III.B.43.

[181] See Economic and Social Council decision 1999/281.

4. *Calls upon* all countries, in particular the major developed economies, to enhance coherence among their financial, trade and development cooperation policies, with a view to creating an enabling international economic environment supportive of development, in particular of developing countries;

5. *Stresses* the importance, at the national level, of maintaining sound macroeconomic policies and developing effective institutional and regulatory frameworks and human resources, so as to realize the mutually reinforcing objectives of poverty eradication and development, including through national poverty reduction strategies and enhanced policy coherence;

6. *Urges* the international community to promote international development cooperation aimed at enhancing the participation of developing countries in the globalizing world economy;

7. *Also urges* the international community to adopt policies that promote equity in finance, trade and transfer of technology and address the problems of developing countries in the areas of external debt and transfer of resources, financial vulnerability, declining terms of trade and market access;

8. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the International Trade Centre and other multilateral and bilateral efforts to help developing countries, including landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and, in particular, African countries and the least developed countries, in addressing their specific concerns within the globalizing economy, in particular through technology-related assistance in the fields of trade and policy, in the improvement of trade efficiency and policies and trade in services, and in electronic commerce;

9. *Emphasizes* the importance of recognizing and addressing the specific concerns of countries with economies in transition so as to help them to benefit from globalization with a view to their full integration into the world economy;

10. *Strongly underlines* the importance of an enabling environment for investment, in particular foreign direct investment, and of market access, governance responsive to the needs of the people based on efficient, participatory, transparent and accountable public service, policy-making processes and administration, an increase in the volume and effectiveness of official development assistance, tackling unsustainable debt burdens, including debt conversion measures and flexibility in the implementation of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative and, as recommended in the report of the Secretary-General,[182] support for regional cooperation and integration as priority areas that need to be addressed in order to achieve sustainable development in African countries and to encourage the participation of all African countries in the global economy;

11. *Emphasizes* the technology-led dimension of globalization and the importance of facilitating access to and transfer of information and communication technology and corresponding knowledge, in particular to developing countries, on favourable terms, including concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights, as well as the special needs of developing countries, to enable them to benefit from globalization through full and effective integration into the emerging global information network;

12. *Strongly emphasizes* the need for the regional and national capacity-building programmes of the United Nations system, the regional commissions, United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to have a strong component oriented towards assisting developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, in the area of information and communication technology;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, in close collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and in consultation with other relevant organizations, a comprehensive report containing action-oriented recommendations on promoting further the role of the United Nations system in the transfer of information and communication technology to developing countries and also on its role in promoting policy coherence, complementarity and coordination on economic, financial, trade, technology and development issues at the global level in order to optimize the benefits of globalization;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to convene, if possible, from extrabudgetary resources, a meeting of a high-level panel of experts on information and communication technology, taking into account equitable geographical representation, and in consultation with Member States, to prepare a report, to be made available in early June 2000, containing recommendations on the role of the United Nations in enhancing the integration of developing countries in the emerging global information network, facilitating access for developing countries to information and communication technology, including access on preferential and concessional terms, where appropriate, and promoting the participation of developing countries, including through infrastructure facilities, in knowledge-intensive sectors of the global economy;

15. *Invites* countries, and other relevant entities in a position to do so, to provide the necessary extrabudgetary resources for the convening of the high-level panel;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence".

RESOLUTION 54/232

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/593)

54/232. Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/107 of 20 December 1995 and 53/198 of 15 December 1998 regarding the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006) and all of its other resolutions relating to international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in the developing countries,

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[182] A/52/871–S/1998/318; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1998*, document S/1998/318.

Recalling also the declarations and programmes of action of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the 1990s as they relate to the eradication of poverty,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[183]

Expressing its deep concern that the number of people living in extreme poverty continues to increase, with women and children constituting the majority and the most affected group,

Expressing its deep concern also that efforts to reduce poverty have been severely constrained because of the slowing down of economic growth in developing countries, as a result of, *inter alia*, and, in particular, the 1997–1998 financial crisis and declining commodity prices, and noting that while some of the most visible effects of the crisis are being overcome in some regions and sectors, there is a need to sustain and to expand the momentum of recovery,

Recognizing that, while the process of globalization brings with it opportunities, it poses new challenges and risks for developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, at a time when they are intensifying their efforts to achieve sustained economic growth and directing their national policies towards the eradication of poverty through the implementation of comprehensive strategies, policies and programmes, including those with a long-term perspective,

Recognizing also that, while the rate of poverty in some countries has been reduced, some developing countries and disadvantaged groups are being marginalized, others are at risk of being marginalized and effectively excluded from the benefits of globalization, and there is increased income disparity among and within countries, thereby constraining efforts to eradicate poverty,

Recognizing further that the combined effects of natural disasters, conflicts, entrenched poverty, disease, especially malaria and the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome epidemic, and lack of proper education affect the economic prospects of, and efforts to eradicate poverty in, the most severely affected countries, especially in Africa,

Recognizing that, while it is the primary responsibility of States to attain social development, the international community should support the efforts of the developing countries to eradicate poverty and to ensure basic social protection,

Expressing its appreciation to the developed countries that have agreed to and have reached the target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance,

Emphasizing the need to strengthen further the efforts of international organizations, agencies, funds, programmes and bodies of the United Nations system, including the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund within their respective mandates, as well as the efforts of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to implement measures and to take action to eradicate poverty within the framework of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty,

Noting with appreciation the debt initiative launched by the Group of Seven major industrialized countries at its meeting held at Cologne, Germany, from 18 to 20 June 1999, the decisions taken by the international community to assign priority to the eradication of poverty in the programmes and policy advice of the Bretton Woods institutions and the enhancement to the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative introduced with a view to achieving deeper, broader and faster debt relief for the heavily indebted poor countries,

1. *Reiterates* that the main objective of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty is to achieve the goal of eradicating absolute poverty and reducing overall poverty substantially in the world through decisive national action and international cooperation;

2. *Reiterates also* the call for strengthened efforts at all levels to implement fully and effectively the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations and all agreements and commitments adopted at major United Nations conferences and summits organized since 1990 as they relate to the eradication of poverty, and, in this context, calls for specific action aimed at achieving tangible results through an output-oriented approach to attaining the objectives of the Decade as soon as possible;

3. *Reaffirms* that, within the context of overall action for the eradication of poverty, special attention should be given to the multidimensional nature of poverty and the national and international conditions and policies that are conducive to its eradication by fostering, *inter alia*, the social and economic integration of people living in poverty, thus empowering them to participate in decision-making with regard to the policies that affect them, to the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including the right to development, and to an efficient, transparent and accountable public service and administration;

4. *Stresses* the importance of tackling the root causes of poverty and the necessity of meeting the basic needs of all, and, in this context, emphasizes the fundamental role in the eradication of poverty of strong and sustained economic growth that favours the poor, creates substantive expansion in productive opportunities and employment, increases incomes, promotes equitable income distribution and minimizes environmental degradation;

5. *Recognizes* the importance of adopting appropriate policy responses to the challenges of globalization at the national level, in particular by pursuing sound and stable domestic policies, including sound macroeconomic and social policies, in order to realize the objective of eradicating poverty;

6. *Calls upon* all Governments to incorporate, as they deem appropriate, the recommendations made by the Secretary-General for possible action and initiatives for poverty eradication towards the new millennium[184] in the design and implementation of their national poverty alleviation strategies and to explore policies best suited to their national circumstances with a view to maximizing efforts aimed at poverty reduction and eradication;

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[183] A/54/316.

[184] Ibid., sect. V.

7. *Reaffirms* that the causes of poverty should be addressed in the context of sectoral strategies, such as those on environment, food security, population, migration, health, shelter, the development of human resources, including education, fresh water, rural development and productive employment, and of the specific needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups in such a way as to increase opportunities and choices for people living in poverty and to enable them to build and to strengthen their assets so as to achieve social and economic integration;

8. *Urges* the strengthening of international assistance to developing countries in their efforts to alleviate poverty, including by creating an enabling environment that would facilitate the integration of developing countries into the world economy, improving their market access, facilitating the flow of financial resources and implementing fully and effectively all initiatives already launched regarding debt relief for developing countries, and emphasizes that the international community should consider further measures that would lead to effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries so that they can share equally in the benefits of globalization, cope with its negative effects, avoid being marginalized in the process of globalization and achieve full integration into the world economy;

9. *Calls upon* all countries to formulate and to implement outcome-oriented national strategies and programmes, including setting time-bound targets for poverty reduction, and, in this context, notes the efforts being made to achieve the target of reducing by one half, by 2015, the proportion of people living in extreme poverty, which requires strengthened national action and international assistance;

10. *Reaffirms* that all Governments and the United Nations system should promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policies and programmes aimed at the eradication of poverty, at both the national and international levels, and encourages the use of gender analysis as a tool for the integration of a gender dimension into planning the implementation of policies, strategies and programmes for the eradication of poverty;

11. *Calls upon* the developed countries to strengthen their efforts to achieve, as soon as possible, the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance and, where agreed, within that target, to earmark 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of their gross national product for the least developed countries;

12. *Emphasizes* the importance of increasing the control of the poor over resources, including land, skills, knowledge, capital and social connections;

13. *Emphasizes also* the role of microcredit as an important anti-poverty tool that promotes the generation of productive self-employment and empowers people living in poverty, especially women, and therefore encourages Governments to adopt policies that support the development and capacity of microcredit institutions, and calls upon the international community, in particular the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and international and regional financial institutions involved in the eradication of poverty, to support and to explore the incorporation of the microcredit approach into their programmes and the further development, as appropriate, of other microfinancing instruments;

14. *Calls upon* the developed countries, by means of intensified and effective cooperation with developing countries, to promote capacity-building and to facilitate access to and transfer of technologies and corresponding knowledge, in particular to developing countries, on favourable terms, including concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights, as well as the special needs of developing countries, by identifying and implementing practical steps to ensure the achievement of progress in this regard and to assist developing countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in an era influenced in large measure by technology;

15. *Emphasizes* the critical role of both formal and non-formal education and training and basic education in the empowerment of those living in poverty, notes the importance of the world forum on education to be held at Dakar in April 2000, and invites the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, to propose measures aimed at enhancing the role of the United Nations system, including the World Bank, in helping Member States to provide effective and equitable education for all;

16. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the United Nations system to assign priority to the eradication of poverty and to enhance coordination, and, in this regard, encourages those agencies of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, and other partners in development to continue to support all Member States in carrying forward their own strategy for the achievement of the objectives of the Decade;

17. *Reaffirms* the importance of agreeing on a mutual commitment of interested developed and developing country partners to allocate, on average, 20 per cent of official development assistance and 20 per cent of the national budget, respectively, to basic social programmes, and welcomes the efforts made to implement the 20/20 initiative,[85] which emphasizes that promoting access for all to basic social services is essential for sustainable and equitable development and is an integral part of the strategy for the eradication of poverty;

18. *Welcomes* the Cologne debt initiative, launched in June 1999, which called for substantial additional financing, and recognizes the importance of fair burden-sharing among creditors and the recent decisions of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank on the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative, which should provide deeper, broader and faster debt relief that will contribute to the reduction of poverty in a sustainable manner in those countries;

19. *Recognizes* the difficulties of highly indebted middle-income developing countries and other highly indebted middle-income countries in meeting their external debt and debt-servicing obligations, and notes the worsening situation in some of them in the context, *inter alia*, of higher liquidity

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[85] See A/51/140, annex.

constraints, which may require debt treatment including, as appropriate, debt-reduction measures that will assist them in their efforts effectively to combat poverty;

20. *Encourages* the continued examination in all relevant intergovernmental forums of ways and means to integrate poverty reduction objectives and strategies into discussions on international financial and development issues;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-fifth session on the progress made in the implementation of measures, recommendations and activities relating to the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty, including a thorough examination of the impact of globalization on the eradication of poverty, recommendations for possible action and initiatives for the eradication of poverty and proposals for better coordination of action taken by the United Nations system, as well as on the implementation of the present resolution;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006)".

RESOLUTION 54/235

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/587/Add.6)

54/235. Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/187 of 18 December 1997, in which it decided to convene the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at a high level in 2001, as well as its resolution 53/182 of 15 December 1998,

Noting the progress made in the preparatory process for the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

Taking note of the Ministerial Declaration and Ministerial Statement on the South Summit adopted at the twenty-third annual meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77,[186] held in New York on 24 September 1999, and the Declaration adopted by the Ninth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries,[187] held in New York on 29 September 1999,

1. *Recalls* that the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries will convene in 2001, welcomes the offer of the European Union to host the Conference in Brussels, and decides to accept the offer;

2. *Decides* that the meeting of the intergovernmental preparatory committee envisaged in paragraph 4 of its resolution 53/182 will be held in New York in two parts, in the third quarter of 2000 and the first quarter of 2001, each for five working days;

3. *Also decides* that the Secretary-General of the Conference will organize the three expert-level preparatory meetings provided for in paragraph 4 of its resolution 53/182 at the venues and for the durations deemed most appropriate in consultation with Member States;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the Conference to organize regional-level preparatory events in collaboration with the regional commissions and other relevant regional and subregional organizations, as appropriate;

5. *Reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General of the Conference, in consultation with Member States and in cooperation with relevant organizations and agencies, to organize well-focused sectoral, thematic and country-specific round-table meetings, as appropriate, during the Conference to contribute to its work;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of country-level preparations;

7. *Notes with appreciation*, in this regard, the initiative of the European Union to assist the least developed countries in their preparations at the country level through the assistance of their representatives in those countries, invites the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme and all other relevant bodies and agencies of the United Nations system to provide support to country-level preparations through their field offices in the least developed countries, and calls upon the development partners to support this preparatory process;

8. *Urges* the organizations involved in the implementation of the Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance, including for Human and Institutional Capacity-building, to Support Least Developed Countries in their Trade and Trade-related Activities to intensify their support for efforts to assist those countries in enhancing their export supply capacity and trade opportunities and to integrate them into the multilateral trading system, and requests the Secretary-General of the Conference to ensure that information on progress in the implementation of the Integrated Framework is included in the reports submitted to the preparatory committee and to the Conference itself;

9. *Calls upon* the least developed countries, together with their development partners, in particular the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, as appropriate, to link the forthcoming round-table and consultative group meetings to the country-level preparatory process for the Conference and to ensure that those meetings make substantive contributions to the Conference;

10. *Requests* the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, in his capacity as convenor of the United Nations Development Group, to ensure the full involvement of United Nations resident coordinators and country teams in the least developed countries in the preparations for the Conference, in particular at the country level;

11. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Conference, to convene inter-agency meetings, as necessary, to ensure the full mobilization and coordination of all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as other relevant institutions, for the purpose of carrying out preparations for and providing follow-up to the Conference;

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[186] A/54/432, annexes I and II.

[187] A/C.2/54/3, annex.

12. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the Conference to make arrangements, on the basis of consultations with Member States, to facilitate the broad-based involvement of civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the preparatory process and in the Conference and its follow-up;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of concerned organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, to take the necessary measures to intensify their public information efforts and other appropriate initiatives to enhance public awareness in favour of the Conference, including by highlighting its objectives and significance;

14. *Decides* ~~to~~ defray the cost of the participation of two government representatives from each least developed country in the meetings of the preparatory committee and the Conference itself through the use of extrabudgetary resources, and, in the event that those resources prove to be insufficient, requests the Secretary-General to consider all other options, including the use of unspent balances from the regular budget for the biennium 1996–1997 as an exceptional measure;

15. *Calls upon* donor countries to provide financial support for the participation of the least developed countries in both the preparatory process and the Conference itself, and welcomes efforts already made to that effect;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and Member States, to make the necessary arrangements, through redeployment and the use of other resources at their disposal, for the substantial strengthening of the Office of the Special Coordinator for Least Developed, Landlocked and Island Developing Countries, through the provision of sufficient staff and resources, with a view to enabling it to organize effectively and efficiently the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and the follow-up to its outcome, while satisfactorily carrying out its mandates relating to the least developed, landlocked and small island developing countries;

17. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the state of preparations for the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, taking into account the consideration of the matter at the forty-seventh session of the Trade and Development Board;

18. *Decides* that the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s will continue to provide the framework for national and international action for the least developed countries until the adoption of the next programme of action at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to give high priority to the implementation of the present and future programmes of action for the least developed countries on a system-wide basis and in the context of the follow-up to all major United Nations conferences and summits as well as all forthcoming events, including the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and the high-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development, including the preparatory process, and the Millennium Assembly;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session an item entitled "Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries".

V. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

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RESOLUTION 54/120

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/595)

54/120. Policies and programmes involving youth

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 50/81 of 14 December 1995, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, annexed thereto, as an integral part of that resolution,

Recalling also its resolutions 32/135 of 16 December 1977 and 36/17 of 9 November 1981, by which it adopted guidelines for the improvement of the channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations, and 40/14 of 18 November 1985, entitled "International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace", by which it endorsed the guidelines for further planning and suitable follow-up in the field of youth as contained in the report of the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year on its fourth session, held at Vienna from 25 March to 3 April 1985,[1]

Noting especially that, according to paragraph 123 of the Programme of Action, current regional and interregional conferences of ministers responsible for youth affairs in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean and Western Asia were invited to intensify cooperation among each other and to consider meeting regularly at the international level under the aegis of the United Nations to provide an effective forum for a focused global dialogue on youth-related issues,

Noting that, in paragraph 124 of the Programme of Action, youth-related bodies and organizations of the United Nations system were invited to cooperate with the above-mentioned conferences,

Recalling that, in paragraph 125 of the Programme of Action, the World Youth Forum of the United Nations system was invited to contribute to the implementation of the Programme of Action through the identification and promotion of joint initiatives to further its objectives so that they could better reflect the interests of youth,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/55 of 23 July 1997 and General Assembly resolution 52/83 of 12 December 1997, in which the Council and the Assembly welcomed the offer of the Government of Portugal to host the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth at Lisbon from 8 to 12 August 1998,

Welcoming the holding of the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth, hosted by the Government of Portugal in cooperation with the United Nations, as well as the support of the Government of Portugal for the holding of the third session of the World Youth Forum at Braga, Portugal, from 2 to 7 August 1998,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond[2] and the Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes, adopted at the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth;[3]

2. *Notes* the holding of the third session of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations system at Braga, Portugal, from 2 to 7 August 1998, and expresses its appreciation to the Government of Portugal for its support;

3. *Calls upon* all States, all United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, in particular youth organizations, to make every possible effort towards the implementation of the Programme of Action and to consider, within its framework, the appropriate ways and means to follow up the Lisbon Declaration, in accordance with their experience, situation and priorities;

4. *Invites* all relevant programmes, funds, specialized agencies and other bodies within the United Nations system, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and regional financial institutions, to give greater support to national youth policies and programmes within their country programmes as a way to follow up the World Conference;

5. *Reiterates* the call made by the World Conference to strengthen the Youth Unit of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Secretariat through the provision of all regular staffing and resources necessary for the fulfilment of its mandate, including the provision of effective assistance in the implementation of the Programme of Action;

6. *Encourages* the regional commissions to follow up the World Conference in their respective regions, in coordination with regional meetings of ministers responsible for youth and regional non-governmental youth organizations, and to provide advisory services to support national youth policies and programmes in each region;

7. *Endorses* the recommendation made by the World Conference that 12 August be declared International Youth Day,[4] and recommends that public information activities be organized at all levels to support the Day as a way to promote better awareness, especially among youth, of the Programme of Action;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General to participate actively in the effective follow-up to the World Conference, bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 52/83 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/55 and within the framework of the Programme of Action;

9. *Recommends* that the second World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth be organized under the aegis of the United Nations, and notes with appreciation the offer made by the Government of Turkey to organize the second

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[1] A/40/256, annex.

[2] A/54/59.

[3] See WCMRY/1998/28, chap. I, resolution 1.

[4] Ibid., resolution 2.

World Conference together with the fifth session of the World Youth Forum and the World Youth Festival;[5]

10. *Welcomes* the offer of the Government of Senegal to host the fourth session of the World Youth Forum in 2001;[6]

11. *Calls upon* Member States, all United Nations bodies and non-governmental organizations to continue to implement fully the guidelines for further planning and suitable follow-up in the field of youth, which the General Assembly endorsed by its resolution 40/14, and the guidelines for the improvement of the channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations, which the Assembly adopted by its resolutions 32/135 and 36/17, and in particular to facilitate, in accordance with these resolutions, the activities of youth mechanisms that have been set up by youth and youth organizations;

12. *Recognizes* the important role that could be played by the United Nations Youth Fund for the implementation of agreed programmes and mandates on youth, including the provision of support for youth activities promoting South-South cooperation;

13. *Invites* all Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the Fund, and requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate actions to encourage contributions;

14. *Recognizes* the important role of non-governmental youth organizations in the implementation of the Programme of Action at the national and international levels and in the development and evaluation of national policies, in particular concerning youth, and encourages Governments to ensure that the perspective of young people is reflected in national policies and programmes;

15. *Calls upon* all States, all United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to exchange knowledge and expertise on youth-related issues, upon setting up the ways and means to do so;

16. *Reiterates* the call made in the Programme of Action to Member States to consider including youth representatives in their delegations to the General Assembly and other relevant United Nations meetings, thus broadening the channels of communication and enhancing the discussion of youth-related issues, and requests the Secretary-General to convey this invitation again to Member States;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular on progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action.

RESOLUTION 54/121

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/595)

54/121. Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: towards a society for all in the twenty-first century

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 37/52 of 3 December 1982, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,[7] 48/96 of 20 December 1993, by which it adopted the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, 49/153 of 23 December 1994, 50/144 of 21 December 1995 and 52/82 of 12 December 1997,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1997/19, on equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities, and 1997/20, on children with disabilities, of 21 July 1997 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/31, on the human rights of persons with disabilities, of 17 April 1998,[8]

Recalling further the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming the obligations contained in relevant human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[9] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[10]

Reaffirming the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits and their respective follow-up reviews, in particular as they pertain to the promotion of the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities,

Noting with appreciation the important contributions of subregional, regional and international seminars and conferences related to persons with disabilities, such as the Fifth World Assembly of Disabled Peoples' International, held at Mexico City from 1 to 7 December 1998, on the theme "Towards an inclusive twenty-first century",

Expressing grave concern that situations of armed conflict have especially devastating consequences for the human rights of persons with disabilities,

Mindful of the need to adopt and implement effective policies and strategies to promote the rights and the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in economic, social, cultural and political life, on the basis of equality, to achieve a society for all,

Concerned that improvement of disability awareness and sensitivity to disability issues has not been significant enough to improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities worldwide,

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[5] See E/CN.5/1999/14, annex.

[6] See A/54/66–E/1999/6.

[7] A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation I (IV).

[8] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[9] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[10] Resolution 44/25, annex.

Recognizing the importance of timely and reliable data on disability-sensitive policies, programme planning and evaluation and the need for further development of practical statistical methodology for the collection and compilation of data on populations with disabilities,

Realizing that technology, in particular information technology, provides new possibilities for improving accessibility and employment for persons with disabilities and facilitating their full participation and equality, and welcoming the initiatives of the United Nations in promoting information technology as a means of achieving the universal goal of a society for all,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;[11]

2. *Welcomes* the initiatives of Governments to enhance the rights of persons with disabilities and for the further equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities, and also welcomes the contribution of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, as appropriate, in this regard;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the valuable work undertaken by the Special Rapporteur for monitoring the implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities of the Commission for Social Development under his second mandate for the period 1997–2000;

4. *Encourages* Governments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, as appropriate, to take concrete measures to promote the implementation of relevant United Nations resolutions and agreed international standards concerning persons with disabilities, in particular the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, and for the further equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities by focusing on accessibility, health, social services, including training and rehabilitation, safety nets, employment and sustainable livelihoods, in the design and implementation of strategies, policies and programmes to promote a more inclusive society;

5. *Calls upon* Governments to undertake all necessary measures to advance beyond the adoption of national plans for people with disabilities through, *inter alia*, the creation or reinforcement of arrangements for the promotion and awareness of disability issues and the allocation of sufficient resources for the full implementation of existing plans and initiatives, and emphasizes the importance of supporting national efforts through international cooperation in this regard;

6. *Encourages* Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to take practical actions, including public information campaigns, by, for and with persons with disabilities, with a view to increasing disability awareness and sensitivity to disability issues and to combating and overcoming discrimination against persons with disabilities and in order to further their full and effective participation in society;

7. *Encourages* Governments to continue their support to non-governmental organizations contributing to the fulfilment of the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;

8. *Also encourages* Governments to involve persons with disabilities in the formulation of strategies and plans aimed at eradicating poverty, promoting education and enhancing employment;

9. *Urges* relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, including relevant human rights treaty bodies and the regional commissions, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and institutions, to work closely with the programme on disability of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Secretariat in the promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities, including activities at the field level, by sharing experiences, findings and recommendations on persons with disabilities;

10. *Urges* Governments to cooperate with the Statistics Division of the Secretariat in the continued development of global statistics and indicators on disability, and encourages them to avail themselves of the technical assistance of the Division to build national capacities for national data-collection systems, as needed;

11. *Also urges* Governments, in collaboration with the United Nations system, to give special attention to the rights, needs and well-being of children with disabilities and their families in the development of policies and programmes;

12. *Encourages* Governments, concerned non-governmental organizations and the private sector to continue to support the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability with a view to implementing fully the World Programme of Action and the Standard Rules, including the work of the Special Rapporteur, and to support activities to build national capacities, with emphasis on priorities identified in resolution 52/82;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to support initiatives of relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, as well as those of regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and institutions, for the promotion of the human rights of persons with disabilities and the further implementation of the World Programme of Action and in their efforts to integrate persons with disabilities in technical cooperation activities, both as beneficiaries and as decision makers;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include, in his assessments of the implementation of the outcome of major United Nations conferences and summits to be considered at the forthcoming special sessions of the General Assembly, the contribution of these meetings to the promotion of the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities;

15. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his efforts in improving the accessibility of the United Nations for persons with disabilities, and urges him to continue to implement plans to provide a barrier-free environment, as

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[11] A/54/388 and Add.1

well as information in an accessible format and communication services;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, through the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-ninth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/122

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/595)

54/122. A United Nations literacy decade: education for all

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[12] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[13] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child[14] the right of every individual to education is recognized as inalienable,

Recalling also its resolutions 42/104 of 7 December 1987, by which it proclaimed 1990 as International Literacy Year, 44/127 of 15 December 1989, 46/93 of 16 December 1991, 50/143 of 21 December 1995, in which it called for continuing international efforts to promote literacy, and 52/84 of 12 December 1997, in which it requested the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and in consultation with Member States, to consider effective ways and means for achieving the goal of education for all, including the desirability and feasibility of launching a United Nations decade to eradicate illiteracy,

Deeply concerned about the persistence of the gender gap in education, which is reflected by the fact that nearly two thirds of the world's adult illiterates are women,

Convinced that literacy, especially functional literacy, and quality education represent a lifelong necessity for all and serve as an investment in human and social capital and a major tool for the empowerment of people,

Recalling its resolution 53/153 of 9 December 1998, entitled "United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004, and public information activities in the field of human rights",

Confident that the International Literacy Year and the World Conference on Education for All, held at Jomtien, Thailand, in 1990, resulted in increased awareness and support for literacy efforts and became a turning point in the struggle for a literate world,

Underlining the importance of sustaining and further promoting the progress achieved since the International Literacy Year and the Jomtien Conference,

Welcoming the Amman Affirmation, adopted at the mid-decade meeting of the International Consultative Forum on Education for All, held at Amman from 16 to 19 June 1996,[15] the report of the International Commission on Education for the Twenty-first Century to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization[16] and the Hamburg Declaration on Adult Learning, adopted at the Fifth International Conference on Adult Education, held at Hamburg, Germany, from 14 to 18 July 1997,[17]

Recognizing that, despite the significant progress in basic education, especially the increase in primary school enrolment coupled with a growing emphasis on the quality of education, major problems, both emerging and continuing, still persist which require even more forceful and concerted action at the national and international levels so as to achieve the goal of education for all,

Urging Member States, in close partnership with international organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations, to promote the right to education for all and to create conditions for all for learning throughout life,

1. *Takes note* of the interim report of the Secretary-General and of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, entitled "Progress towards the goal of education for all: the year 2000 Assessment";[18]

2. *Reaffirms* that basic education for all is essential for achieving the goals of eradicating poverty, reducing child mortality, curbing population growth, achieving gender equality and ensuring sustainable development, peace and democracy;

3. *Acknowledges* the efforts and the preparatory work at the national and regional levels for the year 2000 assessment of progress towards achieving the goals of education for all in identifying both continuing and emerging challenges, and stresses the need to meet those challenges and to accelerate the efforts to meet the basic needs of people of all age groups, in particular girls and women;

4. *Appeals* to all Governments to intensify their efforts to eradicate illiteracy and to direct education towards the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

5. *Also appeals* to all Governments to redouble their efforts to achieve their own goals of education for all by setting firm targets and timetables, where possible, including gender-specific education targets and programmes to combat the illiteracy of women and girls, and, by working in active partnership with communities, associations, the media and development agencies, to reach those targets;

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[12] Resolution 217 A (III).

[13] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[14] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[15] A/52/183-E/1997/74, annex.

[16] *Learning: The Treasure Within* (Paris, UNESCO, 1996).

[17] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, document ED/MD/101, part III.

[18] A/54/128-E/1999/70.

6. *Appeals anew* to Governments and to economic and financial organizations and institutions, both national and international, to lend greater financial and material support to the efforts to increase literacy and achieve the goals of education for all, through, *inter alia*, the 20/20 initiative, as appropriate;

7. *Invites* Member States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system as well as relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify further their efforts to implement effectively the World Declaration on Education for All,[19] the Amman Affirmation,[15] the Hamburg Declaration on Adult Learning, adopted at the Fifth International Conference on Adult Education,[17] and the Agenda for the Future, also adopted at the Fifth International Conference,[17] and the relevant commitments and recommendations to promote literacy made in recent major United Nations conferences and at their five-year reviews with a view to better coordinating their activities and increasing their contribution to development;

8. *Welcomes* the convening of the World Education Forum, to be held in April 2000 in Senegal with a view to assessing the implementation of the goals of education for all and adopting an agenda for education in the twenty-first century;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and Member States and with other relevant organizations and bodies, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a proposal for a United Nations literacy decade, with a draft plan of action and possible time-frame for such a decade, on the basis of the outcomes of the World Education Forum and the special session of the General Assembly for the five-year review of the World Summit for Social Development;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States as well as the relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the question of a United Nations literacy decade.

RESOLUTION 54/123

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/595)

54/123. Cooperatives in social development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/90 of 16 December 1992 and 49/155 of 23 December 1994 and its resolution 51/58 of 12 December 1996 in which it requested the Secretary-General to ascertain, in cooperation with the Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives, the desirability and feasibility of elaborating United Nations guidelines aimed at creating a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on the status and role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends[20] and the draft guidelines aimed at creating a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives annexed thereto,

Recognizing that cooperatives, in their various forms, are becoming a major factor of economic and social development by promoting the fullest possible participation in the development process of women and all population groups, including youth, older persons and people with disabilities, and are increasingly providing an effective and affordable mechanism for meeting people's needs for basic social services,

Recognizing also the important contribution and potential of all forms of cooperatives to the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, the Fourth World Conference on Women, held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995, the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held at Istanbul, Turkey, from 3 to 14 June 1996, and the World Food Summit, held at Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996, including their five-year reviews,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the status and role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends;[20]

2. *Welcomes* the elaboration of the draft guidelines aimed at creating a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives;[21]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek views from Governments on the draft guidelines and provide, if necessary, a revised version for adoption;

4. *Urges* Governments, relevant international organizations and specialized agencies, in collaboration with national and international cooperative organizations, to give due consideration to the role and contribution of cooperatives in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the World Food Summit, including their five-year reviews, by, *inter alia*:

(*a*) Utilizing and developing fully the potential and contribution of cooperatives for the attainment of social development goals, in particular the eradication of poverty, the generation of full and productive employment and the enhancement of social integration;

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[19] *Final Report of the World Conference on Education for All: Meeting Basic Learning Needs, Jomtien, Thailand, 5–9 March 1990*, Inter-Agency Commission (UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, World Bank) for the World Conference on Education for All, New York, 1990, appendix I.

[20] A/54/57.

[21] Ibid., annex.

(*b*) Encouraging and facilitating the establishment and development of cooperatives, including taking measures aimed at enabling people living in poverty or belonging to vulnerable groups to engage on a voluntary basis in the creation and development of cooperatives;

(*c*) Taking appropriate measures aimed at creating a supportive and enabling environment for the development of cooperatives by, *inter alia*, developing an effective partnership between Governments and the cooperative movement;

5. *Invites* Governments, relevant international organizations, specialized agencies and local, national and international cooperative organizations to continue to observe the International Day of Cooperatives annually, on the first Saturday of July, as proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/90;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the relevant United Nations and other international organizations, to render support to Member States, as appropriate, in their efforts to create a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives, including through the organization of workshops and seminars at the national, subregional and regional levels;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with Member States and the relevant United Nations organizations and international organizations, a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to submit it, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

RESOLUTION 54/124

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/595)

54/124. Follow-up to the International Year of the Family

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 46/92 of 16 December 1991, 47/237 of 20 September 1993, 50/142 of 21 December 1995 and 52/81 of 12 December 1997 concerning the proclamation, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family,

Recognizing that the basic objective of the follow-up to the International Year of the Family should be to strengthen and support families in performing their societal and developmental functions and to build upon their strengths, in particular at the national and local levels,

Noting that the family-related provisions of the outcomes of the world conferences of the 1990s continue to provide policy guidance on ways to strengthen family-centred components of policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Emphasizing that equality between women and men and respect for the rights of all family members is essential to family well-being and to society at large,

Noting with concern that the contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities have steadily decreased, reducing its resource base, and that, unless this trend is reversed and the Fund strengthened, many priority concerns relating to family issues will not be met,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the International Year of the Family,[22]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[22] and the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Invites* Governments to continue their actions to build family-friendly societies, *inter alia*, by promoting the rights of individual family members, in particular gender equality and the rights of the child;

3. *Urges* Governments to continue to take sustained action at all levels concerning family issues, including studies and applied research, to promote the role of families in development and to develop concrete measures and approaches to address national priorities to deal with family issues;

4. *Recommends* that all relevant actors, including Governments, research and academic institutions and civil society, contribute to developing strategies and programmes aimed at strengthening the economic and sustainable livelihood of families;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to play an active role in facilitating international cooperation within the framework of the follow-up to the International Year of the Family, to facilitate the exchange of experiences and information among Governments on effective policies and strategies, to facilitate technical assistance, with a focus on least developed and developing countries, and to encourage the organization of subregional and interregional meetings and relevant research;

6. *Invites* the Commission for Social Development, when adopting its next multi-year programme of work, to consider undertaking a review of the global situation of the family in 2004, bearing in mind that, in different cultural, political and social systems, various forms of the family exist;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, on the appropriate ways and means to observe the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004.

RESOLUTION 54/125

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/596)

54/125. Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/91 of 12 December 1997 and 53/110 of 9 December 1998 on preparations for the Tenth

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[22] A/54/256.

United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/32 of 27 July 1993 and the rules of procedure for United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders,

Emphasizing the role of the Tenth Congress as a consultative body of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in accordance with paragraph 29 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the Programme annexed to General Assembly resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991,

Welcoming the recommendations made by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its seventh[23] and eighth[24] sessions on the organizational and substantive preparations for the Tenth Congress,

Stressing the importance of undertaking all the preparatory activities for the Tenth Congress in a timely and concerted manner,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the preparations for the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders;[25]

2. *Also takes note* of the reports of the four regional preparatory meetings for the Tenth Congress,[26] and invites Member States and other entities involved to take into account the conclusions and recommendations contained in those reports;

3. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure, in collaboration with Member States, a wide and effective programme of public information related to the preparations for the Tenth Congress, to the Congress itself and to the follow-up to and implementation of its conclusions;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to assist least developed countries and consider ways to assist developing countries in need to participate in the Tenth Congress by providing the necessary resources for the travel and per diem of delegations from least developed countries, within available resources, and by exploring the possibility of obtaining contributions for that purpose from governmental, intergovernmental and relevant non-governmental organizations and donors;

5. *Calls upon* the specialized agencies and other relevant United Nations bodies and institutes and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to participate effectively in the Tenth Congress and to contribute to the formulation of regional and international measures aimed at preventing crime and ensuring justice;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the substantive and organizational arrangements for the Tenth Congress are adequate in relation to its expected outcome and to provide the required resources for that purpose in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001;

7. *Approves* the documentation and the draft programme of work for the Tenth Congress, as proposed by the Secretary-General in his report on progress made in the preparations for the Congress,[27] taking into account the recommendations of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice related thereto;

8. *Decides* that the high-level segment of the Tenth Congress shall be held on 14 and 15 April 2000 to allow heads of State or Government or government ministers to focus on the main theme of the Congress;

9. *Encourages* States, other entities concerned and the Secretary-General to work together in order to ensure that the four workshops to be held during the Tenth Congress focus clearly on the respective issues and achieve practical results, and invites interested Governments to follow up with concrete technical cooperation projects or activities;

10. *Invites* donor countries to cooperate with developing countries to ensure their full participation in the workshops;

11. *Encourages* Governments to make preparations for the Tenth Congress at an early stage and by all necessary means, including, where appropriate, by establishing national preparatory committees, with a view to contributing to a focused and productive discussion of the topics and to participating actively in the organization of and follow-up to the workshops, the submission of national position papers on different agenda items and the encouragement of contributions from the academic community and relevant scientific institutions;

12. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to be represented at the Tenth Congress at a high political level, for example, by heads of State or Government, government ministers or attorneys-general;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite prominent personalities with acknowledged expertise in the topics of the Tenth Congress, on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, to participate in panels under each topic of the Congress at the expense of the United Nations, with a view to ensuring a more focused discussion and action-oriented conclusions;

14. *Decides* that the Tenth Congress, within the framework of the provisional agenda approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 53/110, should devote particular attention to ways and means of making operational the provisions of the United Nations convention against transnational organized crime, especially taking into account the needs of developing countries in the area of capacity-building;

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[23] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 10* and corrigendum (E/1998/30 and Corr.1), chap. II.

[24] Ibid., *1999, Supplement No. 10* (E/1999/30), chap. IV.

[25] E/CN.15/1999/6 and Corr.1.

[26] A/CONF.187/RPM.1/1 and Corr.1, A/CONF.187/RPM.2/1, A/CONF.187/RPM.3/1 and A/CONF.187/RPM.4/1.

[27] E/CN.15/1999/6 and Corr.1, chap. II, sect. F, and annex.

15. *Requests* the Tenth Congress to submit, through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Economic and Social Council, its declaration to the Millennium Assembly for consideration and action;

16. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to give priority attention at its ninth session to the conclusions and recommendations of the Tenth Congress, with a view to recommending, through the Economic and Social Council, appropriate follow-up by the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to appoint a Secretary-General and an Executive Secretary of the Tenth Congress, in accordance with past practice, to perform their functions under the rules of procedure for United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders;

18. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 54/126

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/596)

54/126. Draft United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the draft protocols thereto

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/159 of 23 December 1994, in which it approved the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime, adopted by the World Ministerial Conference on Organized Transnational Crime, held at Naples, Italy, from 21 to 23 November 1994,[28]

Recalling also its resolution 52/85 of 12 December 1997, in which it decided to establish an inter-sessional open-ended intergovernmental group of experts for the purpose of elaborating a preliminary draft of a possible comprehensive international convention against organized transnational crime, which met at Warsaw from 2 to 6 February 1998,

Recalling further the Buenos Aires Declaration on Prevention and Control of Organized Transnational Crime, adopted by the Regional Ministerial Workshop on Follow-up to the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime, held at Buenos Aires from 27 to 30 November 1995,[29] the Dakar Declaration on the Prevention and Control of Organized Transnational Crime and Corruption, adopted by the African Regional Ministerial Workshop on Organized Transnational Crime and Corruption, held at Dakar from 21 to 23 July 1997,[30] and the Manila Declaration on the Prevention and Control of Transnational Crime, adopted by the Asian Regional Ministerial Workshop on Organized Transnational Crime and Corruption, held at Manila from 23 to 25 March 1998,[31]

Recalling its resolution 53/111 of 9 December 1998, in which it decided to establish an open-ended intergovernmental ad hoc committee for the purpose of elaborating a comprehensive international convention against transnational organized crime and of discussing the elaboration, as appropriate, of international instruments addressing trafficking in women and children, combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants, including by sea,

Convinced of the need to ensure the rapid development and conclusion of the convention and the protocols thereto,

Bearing in mind the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime on its second session, held at Vienna from 8 to 12 March 1999,[32]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eighth session,[33] and expresses its appreciation of the results achieved by the Ad Hoc Committee during its first, second and third sessions, held at Vienna from 19 to 29 January, 8 to 12 March and 28 April to 3 May 1999, respectively, in the development of the draft United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the draft protocols thereto, addressing trafficking in women and children, combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and smuggling of migrants by land, air and sea;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Argentina for acting as host to the informal preparatory meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee, held at Buenos Aires from 31 August to 4 September 1998;

3. *Decides* that the additional international instrument being prepared by the Ad Hoc Committee addressing trafficking in women and children should address trafficking in all persons, but especially women and children, and requests the Ad Hoc Committee to make any corresponding changes to the draft instrument;

4. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to continue its work, in accordance with resolutions 53/111 and 53/114 of 9 December 1998, and to intensify its work in order to complete it in 2000;

5. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee shall be convened in 2000 as required in order to complete its tasks, holding no fewer than four sessions of two weeks each, according to a schedule to be drawn up;

6. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to schedule sufficient time, subject to the availability of funds from the

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[28] A/49/748, annex, chap. I, sect. A.

[29] E/CN.15/1996/2/Add.1, annex.

[30] E/CN.15/1998/6/Add.1, sect. I.

[31] E/CN.15/1998/6/Add.2, sect. I.

[32] A/AC.254/11.

[33] A/AC.254/13-E/CN.15/1999/5.

regular budget or extrabudgetary resources, for the negotiation of the draft protocols addressing trafficking in persons, especially women and children, the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and smuggling of migrants by land, air and sea, in order to enhance the possibility of their completion at the same time as the draft Convention;

7. *Welcomes* the offer of the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences to host informal meetings as deemed appropriate to assist the work of the Ad Hoc Committee;

8. *Encourages* Member States to convene informal regional or interregional meetings to assist the work of the Ad Hoc Committee;

9. *Welcomes* the offer of the Government of Japan to host an international seminar on the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms;

10. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee shall submit the final text of the Convention and the protocols thereto to the General Assembly for early adoption prior to a high-level signing conference;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the offer by the Government of Italy to host a high-level political signing conference at Palermo;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with the required facilities and resources to support its work;

13. *Invites* donor countries to cooperate with developing countries to ensure their full participation in the ongoing negotiating process and in the implementation of the Convention through appropriate means of technical assistance;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide to Member States, upon request, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the area of prevention and control of transnational organized crime;

15. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to submit a report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its ninth session on the progress achieved in its work.

RESOLUTION 54/127

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/596)

54/127. Activities of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime: illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, as well as consideration of the need to develop an instrument on the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in explosives

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/111 of 9 December 1998 on transnational organized crime,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1998/17 on the regulation of explosives for the purpose of crime prevention and public health and safety and 1998/18 on measures to regulate firearms for the purpose of combating illicit trafficking in firearms, of 28 July 1998,

Taking into account the work of the Panel of Governmental Experts on Small Arms, established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 50/70 B of 12 December 1995,

Recognizing the need for effective coordination between the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the different United Nations bodies involved in the field of small arms,

Taking note of the *United Nations International Study on Firearm Regulation*[14] and of the note by the Secretary-General on the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in explosives by criminals and the abuse and misuse of explosives for criminal purposes,[15]

Concerned by the increase, at the international level, in the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition and by the seriousness of the problems arising from them, as well as by their links with transnational organized crime,

Aware of the urgent need to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition,

Aware also that the illicit manufacturing of, trafficking in and criminal misuse of explosives have a harmful effect on the security of States and endanger the well-being of peoples and their social and economic development,

Deeply concerned that effective action against transnational organized crime is hampered by the easy access that criminals have to explosives,

Convinced that combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, as well as combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in explosives, requires international cooperation, the exchange of information and other appropriate measures at the national, regional and global levels,

Aware of the importance of bilateral and multilateral instruments and arrangements in the furtherance of international cooperation in the matter, including guidelines and model regulations,

Stressing the need for all States, especially those States which produce, export or import arms, to take the necessary measures to prevent, curb, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, as well as explosives,

Reaffirming the principles of sovereignty, non-intervention and the sovereign equality of all States and the rights and obligations enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

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[14] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.IV.2.

[15] E/CN.15/1999/3/Add.1.

1. *Welcomes* the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and encourages it to continue the negotiation of an international legal instrument dealing with the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition;

2. *Recommends* that, in negotiating the international legal instrument, the Ad Hoc Committee take into account, when appropriate and pertinent, the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials, adopted by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States at its twenty-fourth special session, held in Washington, D.C., on 13 and 14 November 1997,[36] as well as other existing international instruments and ongoing initiatives;

3. *Calls upon* States to consider the adoption of such legislative or other measures as may be necessary to establish as criminal offences under their domestic law the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, as well as explosives;

4. *Encourages* States to consider ways to enhance cooperation and the exchange of data and other information with a view to preventing, curbing, combating and eradicating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, as well as explosives;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, from within existing or extrabudgetary resources, to convene an expert group of no more than twenty members, with equitable geographical representation, to prepare a study on the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in explosives by criminals and their use for criminal purposes, taking fully into consideration the issues listed in paragraph 2 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/17;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate the participation of experts from developing countries in the meeting of the expert group by providing, from within existing or extrabudgetary resources, for the travel of experts from such countries;

7. *Invites* Member States to make voluntary contributions in order to support the study to be prepared by the expert group and to ensure the participation of experts from developing countries;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report, as early as possible, to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on the results of the study, and directs the Ad Hoc Committee, following the completion of the study, to consider the possible elaboration of an international instrument on the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in explosives.

RESOLUTION 54/128

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/596)

54/128. Action against corruption

The General Assembly,

Noting the corrosive effect that corruption has on democracy, development, the rule of law and economic activity,

Recognizing that corruption is a primary tool of organized crime in its efforts, often conducted on an international basis, to subvert Governments and legitimate commerce,

Drawing attention to the increasing number of regional conventions and other regional instruments recently developed to fight corruption, including the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development adopted on 21 November 1997,[37] the Inter-American Convention against Corruption adopted by the Organization of American States on 29 March 1996,[38] the Principles to Combat Corruption in African Countries of the Global Coalition for Africa, the Criminal Law Convention on Corruption[39] and the Agreement Establishing the Group of States against Corruption adopted by the Council of Europe on 27 January and 1 May 1999, respectively, the conventions and related protocols on corruption of the European Union and recommendation 32 of the Senior Experts Group on Transnational Organized Crime endorsed by the Political Group of Eight at Lyon, France, on 29 June 1996,[40] as well as to best practices, such as those compiled by the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering, the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision and the International Organization of Securities Commissions,

Commending the efforts in the United Nations to address corruption concerns in a global forum, including the United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions[41] and the International Code of Conduct for Public Officials,[42] the ongoing development of a comprehensive international convention against transnational organized crime and protocols thereto by the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 53/111 of 9 December 1998, and the manual prepared by the Secretariat on practical measures against corruption,[43]

Noting the holding of the Expert Group Meeting on Corruption and its Financial Channels in Paris from 30 March to 1 April 1999, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/16 of 28 July 1998,

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[36] See A/53/78, annex.

[37] See *Corruption and Integrity Improvement Initiatives in Developing Countries* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.III.B.18).

[38] See E/1996/99.

[39] Council of Europe, *European Treaty Series*, No. 173.

[40] See Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/22, annex I.

[41] Resolution 51/191, annex.

[42] Resolution 51/59, annex.

[43] *International Review of Criminal Policy*, Nos. 41 and 42 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.IV.4).

Noting also the holding of the first Global Forum on Fighting Corruption in Washington, D.C., from 24 to 26 February 1999, at the invitation of the Vice-President of the United States of America,[illegible] at which participants from ninety Governments called upon their Governments to cooperate in regional and global bodies to adopt effective anti-corruption principles and practices and to create ways to assist one another through mutual evaluation,

1. *Takes note with appreciation of*, and subscribes to the conclusions and recommendations of the Expert Group Meeting on Corruption and its Financial Channels, held in Paris from 30 March to 1 April 1999, which are contained in the report of the Expert Group Meeting;[illegible]

2. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the Declaration made by the first Global Forum on Fighting Corruption, held in Washington, D.C., from 24 to 26 February 1999,[illegible] and notes that the second Global Forum is to be held in the Netherlands in 2000 as a follow-up to the first Global Forum;

3. *Invites* Member States to examine, at the national level, as appropriate, taking into account the above-mentioned documents, the adequacy of their domestic legal regimes in terms of guarding against corruption and providing for forfeiture of the proceeds of corruption, drawing upon international assistance available for that purpose, with a view, where necessary:

(a) To strengthening national laws and regulations in order to criminalize corruption in all its forms, amending provisions against money-laundering so that they cover bribes and the proceeds of corruption, as well as provisions concerning the prevention and detection of acts of corruption and money-laundering;

(b) To improving the transparency, vigilance and monitoring of financial transactions and limiting bank and professional secrecy in cases involving criminal investigation;

(c) To promoting both inter-agency coordination and international administrative and judicial cooperation in matters involving corruption;

(d) To enacting legislation and establishing programmes promoting the full involvement of civil society in efforts to fight corruption;

(e) To providing, in accordance with relevant international instruments and domestic legislation, for the possibility of providing extradition and mutual assistance in cases involving corruption or money-laundering;

4. *Stresses* the need to develop a global strategy to strengthen international cooperation aimed at the prevention and punishment of corruption, including the links of corruption with organized crime and money-laundering, by:

(a) Encouraging Member States to become parties to and to implement the terms of relevant international conventions and other instruments aimed at fighting corruption;

(b) Inviting Member States to participate in conferences and other forums for the advancement of international efforts against corruption;

(c) Also inviting Member States to explore the possibilities of developing a global system for peer review regarding the adequacy of practices aimed at combating corruption;

5. *Directs* the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime to incorporate into the draft Convention measures against corruption linked to organized crime, including provisions regarding the sanctioning of acts of corruption involving public officials;

6. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee, using such time as its schedule permits and with extrabudgetary resources provided for that purpose, to explore the desirability of an international instrument against corruption, either ancillary to or independent of the Convention, to be developed after the finalization of the Convention and the three additional instruments referred to in General Assembly resolution 53/111, and to present its views to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

7. *Invites* Member States to keep the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat informed of progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of the Expert Group Meeting on Corruption and its Financial Channels;

8. *Requests* the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention:

(a) To ensure that the ongoing revision of the manual prepared by the Secretariat on practical measures against corruption[illegible] incorporates the recommendations of the Expert Group Meeting on Corruption and its Financial Channels[illegible] and takes note of the conclusions of the first Global Forum on Fighting Corruption;[illegible]

(b) To continue to develop, in consultation with Member States, an effective global programme for providing technical assistance to fight corruption;

(c) To explore ways to convince underregulated financial centres to adopt rules enabling them to trace and take action against the proceeds of organized crime and corruption, to participate actively in international cooperation aimed at preventing and controlling related forms of financial crime and, if necessary, to consider measures to protect the international financial system from the underregulated financial centres and mechanisms for the establishment of such minimum rules;

(d) To report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice no later than at its tenth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution and the steps taken by Member States to combat corruption and its proceeds.

[illegible] E/CN.15/1999/CRP.12.

[illegible] E/CN.15/1999/10, paras. 1–14.

[illegible] E/CN.15/1999/[illegible]/Add.1.

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake, within existing or extrabudgetary resources, technical cooperation activities to combat corruption, in consultation with Member States that may be able to provide assistance.

RESOLUTION 54/129

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/596)

54/129. High-level Political Signing Conference for the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/111 of 9 December 1998, in which it decided to establish an open-ended intergovernmental ad hoc committee for the purpose of elaborating a comprehensive international convention against transnational organized crime and of discussing the elaboration, as appropriate, of international instruments addressing trafficking in women and children, combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants, including by sea,

Bearing in mind that in resolution 54/126 of 17 December 1999 it requested the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime to schedule sufficient time, subject to the availability of funds from the regular budget or from extrabudgetary resources, for the negotiation of the draft protocols addressing trafficking in persons, especially women and children, the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and smuggling of migrants by land, air and sea, in order to enhance the possibility of their completion at the same time as the draft Convention,

Acknowledging the progress made thus far by the Ad Hoc Committee towards the goal of completing negotiations in 2000,

Mindful that substantive negotiations on the Convention and the protocols thereto continue in Vienna in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 40/243 of 18 December 1985 and 53/111 and 53/114 of 9 December 1998,

Recalling that in its resolution 54/126 it decided that the Ad Hoc Committee should submit the final text of the Convention and the protocols thereto to the General Assembly for early adoption prior to a high-level signing conference,

Recalling also the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime, adopted by the World Ministerial Conference on Organized Transnational Crime, held in Naples, Italy, from 21 to 23 November 1994,[47] in which the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice was requested to initiate the process of elaborating international instruments, such as a convention or conventions against organized transnational crime,

Recognizing the initiating role and the contribution of the Government of Poland to the development of a draft convention against transnational organized crime,

Recognizing also the historic and symbolic importance of associating the first international convention against transnational organized crime with the city of Palermo, Italy,

1. *Accepts with appreciation* the offer of the Government of Italy to host a high-level political signing conference in Palermo for the purpose of signing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Convention) and the protocols thereto;

2. *Decides* to convene the High-level Political Signing Conference in Palermo;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to schedule the Conference for a period of up to one week before the end of the Millennium Assembly in 2000, with the Conference to be organized in accordance with resolution 40/243;

4. *Requests* the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat to work with the Government of Italy, in consultation with Member States, to propose the agenda for and the organization of the Conference, including opportunities for high-level delegates to discuss matters related to the Convention and the protocols thereto, in particular the follow-up activities, for their effective implementation and future work;

5. *Invites* all States to be represented at the High-level Political Signing Conference at the highest possible levels of government.

RESOLUTION 54/130

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/596)

54/130. African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/113 of 9 December 1998 and all other relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[48]

Bearing in mind the urgent need to establish effective crime prevention strategies for Africa, as well as the importance of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary at the regional and subregional levels,

Noting that the financial situation of the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders has greatly affected its capacity to deliver its services to African Member States in an effective and comprehensive manner,

1. *Commends* the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for its efforts to

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[47] A/49/748, annex, chap. I, sect. A.

[48] A/54/340.

promote and coordinate regional technical cooperation activities related to crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

2. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen further the capacity of the Institute to support national mechanisms for crime prevention and criminal justice in African countries;

3. *Urges* the States members of the Institute to make every possible effort to meet their obligations to the Institute;

4. *Calls upon* all Member States and non-governmental organizations to adopt concrete practical measures to support the Institute in the development of the requisite capacity and implement its programmes and activities aimed at strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to mobilize all relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide the necessary financial and technical support to the Institute to enable it to fulfil its mandate;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to deploy his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to provide the Institute with the core professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

7. *Calls upon* the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to work closely with the Institute;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance the promotion of regional cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the fight against crime, especially in its transnational dimension, which cannot be dealt with adequately by national action alone;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make concrete proposals, including the provision of additional core professional staff, in order to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Institute and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/131

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/596)

54/131. Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991 on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in which it approved the statement of principles and programme of action annexed to that resolution,

Emphasizing the role of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, specifically the reduction of criminality, more efficient and effective law enforcement and administration of justice, respect for human rights and promotion of the highest standards of fairness, humanity and professional conduct,

Convinced of the desirability of closer coordination and cooperation among States in combating crime, including drug-related crimes such as money-laundering, illicit arms trade and terrorist crimes, bearing in mind the role that could be played by both the United Nations and regional organizations in this respect,

Recognizing the urgent need to increase technical cooperation activities to assist countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition, with their efforts in translating United Nations policy guidelines into practice,

Recalling its relevant resolutions in which it requested the Secretary-General, as a matter of urgency, to provide the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandate, in conformity with the high priority attached to the Programme,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 53/114 of 9 December 1998;[illegible]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, in responding to the needs of the international community in the face of both national and transnational criminality and in assisting Member States in achieving the goals of preventing crime within and among States and improving the response to crime;

3. *Also reaffirms* the role of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat in providing to Member States, upon request, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the area of prevention and control of organized crime;

4. *Notes* the programme of work of the Centre, including the launching of three global programmes addressing, respectively, trafficking in human beings, corruption and organized crime, formulated on the basis of close consultations with Member States and review by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and calls on the Secretary-General to strengthen further the Centre by providing it with the resources necessary for the full implementation of its mandate;

5. *Supports* the high priority given to technical cooperation and advisory services in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the area of prevention and control of transnational organized crime, and stresses the need to enhance the operational activities of the Centre to assist, in particular, developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

[illegible] A/54/289

6. *Welcomes* the increased number of technical assistance projects in the field of juvenile justice, reflecting an increased awareness among Member States of the importance of juvenile justice reform in establishing and maintaining stable societies and the rule of law;

7. *Invites* all States to support, through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, the operational activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

8. *Encourages* relevant programmes, funds and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, international financial institutions, in particular the World Bank, and regional and national funding agencies to support the technical operational activities of the Centre;

9. *Urges* States and funding agencies to review, as appropriate, their funding policies for development assistance and to include a crime prevention and criminal justice component in such assistance;

10. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to exercise more vigorously its mandated function of resource mobilization, and calls upon the Commission to strengthen further its activities in this direction;

11. *Expresses its appreciation* to non-governmental organizations and other relevant sectors of civil society for their support to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Executive Director of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention to enhance the synergies between the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the Centre for International Crime Prevention, in conformity with the reform proposals of the Secretary-General;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to assist the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as the principal policy-making body in this field, in performing its activities, including cooperation and coordination with other relevant bodies, such as the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Commission on Human Rights, the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission for Social Development;

14. *Reaffirms* the high priority attached to the elaboration of a comprehensive convention against transnational organized crime and additional international instruments addressing trafficking in persons, especially women and children, combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and smuggling of migrants by land, air and sea, notes the progress achieved by the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in this regard, and calls upon Member States to make all possible efforts to ensure the rapid development and conclusion of the convention and the protocols thereto;

15. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to mainstream a gender perspective into its activities and its request to the Secretariat that a gender perspective be integrated into all activities of the Centre;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 54/132

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/597)

54/132. International cooperation against the world drug problem

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/92 of 12 December 1997 and 53/115 of 9 December 1998,

Reaffirming its commitment to the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly devoted to countering the world drug problem together, held in New York from 8 to 10 June 1998, and welcoming the continued determination of Governments to overcome the world drug problem by a full and balanced application of national, regional and international strategies to reduce the demand for, production of and trafficking in illicit drugs, as reflected in the Political Declaration,[10] the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction[11] and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,[12]

Gravely concerned that, despite continued increased efforts by States, relevant international organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations, there is a global expansion of the drug problem, which constitutes a serious threat to the health, safety and well-being of all mankind, in particular young people, in all countries, undermines development, including efforts to reduce poverty, socio-economic and political stability and democratic institutions, entails an increasing economic cost for Governments, also threatens the national security and sovereignty of States, as well as the dignity and hope of millions of people and their families, and causes irreparable loss of human lives,

Concerned that the demand for, production of and trafficking in illicit drugs and psychotropic substances continue to threaten seriously the socio-economic and political systems, stability, national security and sovereignty of an increasing number of States, especially those involved in conflicts and wars, and that trafficking in drugs could make conflict resolution more difficult,

Deeply alarmed by the growing and spreading violence and economic power of criminal organizations and terrorist groups engaged in drug-trafficking activities and other criminal activities, such as money-laundering and illicit traffic in arms, precursors and essential chemicals, and by the increasing transnational links between them, and recognizing the need for international cooperation and implementation of effective strategies on the basis of the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, which are essential to achieving results against all forms of transnational criminal activities,

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[10] Resolution S-20/2, annex.

[11] Resolution S-20/3, annex.

[12] Resolution S-20/4.

Deeply convinced that the special session made a significant contribution to a new comprehensive framework for international cooperation, based on an integrated and balanced approach with strategies, measures, methods, practical activities, goals and specific targets to be met, that all States, the United Nations system and other international organizations must implement them with concrete actions and that the international financial institutions, such as the World Bank, and the regional development banks should be invited to include action against the world drug problem in their programmes, taking into account the priorities of States,

Convinced that civil society, including non-governmental organizations, can make an effective contribution to and should play an active role in addressing the world drug problem,

Emphasizing the importance of the adoption of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction annexed to the present resolution, which introduces a global approach, recognizing a new balance between illicit supply and demand reduction, under the principle of shared responsibility, aims at preventing the use of drugs and at reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse, ensuring that special attention is paid to vulnerable groups, in particular youth, and constitutes one of the pillars of the new global strategy and an important initiative of the United Nations Decade against Drug Abuse, 1991–2000, and reaffirming the need for demand reduction programmes,

Emphasizing equally the importance of supply reduction as an integral part of a balanced drug control strategy under the principles enshrined in the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,[53] reaffirming the need for alternative development programmes that are sustainable, welcoming the achievements of some States on their way to eradicating illicit drug crops, and inviting all other States to make similar efforts,

Underlining the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the principal United Nations policy-making body on drug control issues, the leadership role and commendable work of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme as the main focus for concerted multilateral action and the important role of the International Narcotics Control Board as an independent monitoring authority, as set out in the international drug control treaties,

Recognizing the efforts of all countries, in particular those that produce narcotic drugs for scientific and medical purposes, and of the International Narcotics Control Board in preventing the diversion of such substances to illicit markets and in maintaining production at a level consistent with licit demand, in line with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961[54] and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[55]

Acknowledging that there are links, under certain circumstances, between poverty and the increase in the illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and that the promotion of the economic development of countries affected by the illicit drug trade requires appropriate measures, including strengthened international cooperation in support of alternative and sustainable development activities in the affected areas of those countries, which have as their objectives the reduction and elimination of illicit drug production,

Stressing that respect for all human rights is and must be an essential component of measures taken to address the drug problem,

Ensuring that women and men benefit equally, and without any discrimination, from strategies directed against the world drug problem, through their involvement in all stages of programmes and policy-making,

Recognizing that the use of the Internet poses new opportunities and challenges to international cooperation in combating drug abuse and illicit production and trafficking, and recognizing also the need for increased cooperation among States and the exchange of information, including with reference to national experiences, on how to counteract the promotion of drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking through this instrument and on ways to use the Internet for information concerning drug demand reduction,

I

RESPECT FOR THE PRINCIPLES ENSHRINED IN THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL LAW IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM

1. *Reaffirms* that the fight against the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility which must be addressed in a multilateral setting, requiring an integrated and balanced approach, and must be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, and in particular with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Calls upon* all States to take further action to promote effective cooperation at the international and regional levels in the efforts to combat the world drug problem so as to contribute to a climate conducive to achieving that end, on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

3. *Urges* all States to ratify or accede to and implement all the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[56] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[55] and the United Nations

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[53] Resolution S-20/4 E.

[54] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.

[55] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

[56] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.

Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;[57]

II

ACTION PLAN FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION

1. *Adopts* the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction as contained in the annex to the present resolution;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-third session on the follow-up to the Action Plan;

3. *Urges* all Member States to implement the Action Plan in their respective national, regional and international actions and to strengthen their national efforts to fight the use of illicit drugs among their population, in particular among children and youth;

III

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO COUNTER THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM

1. *Urges* competent authorities, at the international, regional and national levels, to implement the outcome of the twentieth special session, within the agreed time-frames, in particular the high-priority practical measures at the international, regional or national level, as indicated in the Political Declaration,[50] the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction[51] and the Action Plan for its implementation and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,[52] including the Action Plan against Illicit Manufacture, Trafficking and Abuse of Amphetamine-type Stimulants and Their Precursors,[58] the measures to prevent the illicit manufacture, import, export, trafficking, distribution and diversion of precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,[59] the measures to promote judicial cooperation,[60] the measures to counter money-laundering[61] and the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development;[53]

2. *Stresses* its resolve to strengthen the United Nations machinery for international drug control, in particular the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, in order to enable it to fulfil its mandate, and takes note of the recommendations contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/30 of 28 July 1999;

3. *Renews its commitment* to further strengthening international cooperation and substantially increasing efforts to counter the world drug problem, in accordance with the obligations of States under the United Nations drug control conventions, on the basis of the general framework given by the Global Programme of Action,[62] and the outcome of the special session, and taking into account experience gained;

4. *Calls upon* all States to adopt effective measures, including national laws and regulations, to implement the mandates and recommendations of the Global Programme of Action, to strengthen national judicial systems and to carry out effective drug control activities in cooperation with other States in accordance with those international instruments, in order to implement the outcome and the goals of the special session, within the agreed time-frame of 2003 and 2008;

5. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions and other concerned intergovernmental and international organizations, within their mandates, and all actors of civil society, notably non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, sports associations, the media and the private sector, to continue their close cooperation with Governments in their efforts to promote and implement the Global Programme of Action, the outcome of the special session and the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, including through public information campaigns;

6. *Urges* Governments, the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other international organizations to assist and support, upon request, transit States, in particular developing countries in need of such assistance and support, aiming at enhancing their capacity to fight illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, taking into account national plans and initiatives, and emphasizes the importance of subregional, regional and international cooperation in combating illicit drug trafficking;

7. *Reaffirms* that preventing the diversion of chemicals from legitimate commerce to illicit drug manufacture is an essential component of a comprehensive strategy against drug abuse and trafficking, which requires the effective cooperation of exporting, importing and transit States, takes note of the progress made in developing practical guidelines to prevent such diversion of chemicals, including those of the International Narcotics Control Board and the recommendations on implementing article 12 of the 1988 Convention, and calls upon all States to adopt and implement measures to prevent the diversion of chemicals to illicit drug manufacture, in cooperation with competent international and regional bodies and, if necessary and to the extent possible, with the private sector in each State, in accordance with the objectives targeted for 2003 and 2008 in the Political Declaration of the special session and the resolution on the control of precursors adopted at the special session;[59]

8. *Calls upon* States in which cultivation and production of illicit drug crops occur to establish or reinforce, where appropriate, national mechanisms to monitor and verify illicit crops, and requests the Executive Director of the United

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[57] See *Official Records of the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, Vienna, 25 November–20 December 1988*, vol. I (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XI.5).

[58] Resolution S-20/4 A.

[59] See resolution S-20/4 B.

[60] Resolution S-20/4 C.

[61] Resolution S-20/4 D.

[62] See resolution S-17/2, annex.

Nations International Drug Control Programme to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-third session, in March 2000, on the follow-up to the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development;

9. *Requests* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, with the support of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, to continue its work expeditiously, within the established time-frames, on the elaboration of guidelines to facilitate biennial reporting by Governments on the implementation of the Global Programme of Action and progress achieved in meeting the goals and targets for 2003 and 2008, as set out in the Political Declaration of the special session, and to encourage an efficient collection of reliable data, an increase in the number of Governments that report updated information on a regular basis and an improvement in the quality of their responses, as well as the avoidance of the duplication of activities;

10. *Calls upon* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to mainstream a gender perspective into all its policies, programmes and activities, and requests the Secretariat to integrate a gender perspective into all documentation prepared for the Commission;

11. *Recalls* the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1995,[63] notes with satisfaction the commitment of young people to a drug-free society made at various forums, stresses the importance of youth continuing to contribute their experiences and to participate in the decision-making processes and, in particular, putting into effect the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, and, in this context, recalls the holding of the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth in Lisbon from 8 to 12 August 1998,[64] and also recalls the holding of the third World Youth Forum of the United Nations system in Braga, Portugal, from 2 to 7 August 1998;[65]

12. *Calls upon* States to adopt effective measures, including possible national legislative measures, and to enhance cooperation to stem the illicit trade in small arms, which, as a result of its close link to the illicit drug trade, is generating extremely high levels of crime and violence within the societies of some States, threatening the national security and the economies of those States;

13. *Notes* the progress achieved in the elaboration of an international convention against transnational organized crime and the three related international instruments, within the framework of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and urges the Committee to intensify its work in order to complete it in 2000;

14. *Reaffirms* the importance of the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations Decade against Drug Abuse, 1991–2000, under the theme "A global response to a global challenge", by Member States, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations system.

IV

ACTION BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in coordinating and providing effective leadership for all United Nations drug control activities so as to increase cost-effectiveness and ensure coherence of action, as well as coordination, complementarity and non-duplication of such activities throughout the United Nations system;

2. *Emphasizes* that the multidimensional nature of the world drug problem calls for the promotion of integration and coordination of drug control activities throughout the United Nations system, including in the follow-up to major United Nations conferences;

3. *Invites* Governments and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to attach high priority to the improvement of the coordination of United Nations activities related to the world drug problem so as to avoid duplication of such activities, strengthen efficiency and accomplish the goals approved by Governments;

4. *Urges* the specialized agencies, programmes and funds, including humanitarian organizations, and invites multilateral financial institutions, to include action against the world drug problem in their programming and planning processes in order to ensure that the integral and balanced strategy which emerged from the special session devoted to countering the world drug problem together is being addressed;

V

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMME

1. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to implement its mandate within the framework of the international drug control treaties, the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control,[66] the Global Programme of Action,[62] the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to countering the world drug problem together and relevant consensus documents;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Programme for the support provided to different States in meeting the objectives of the Global Programme of Action and of the special session, especially in cases where significant and anticipated progress was achieved regarding the objectives targeted for 2003 and 2008;

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[63] Resolution 50/81, annex.

[64] A/53/378, annex I.

[65] Ibid., annex II.

[66] See *Report of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, Vienna, 17–26 June 1987* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.I.18), chap. I, sect. A.

3. *Requests* the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to continue:

(*a*) To strengthen cooperation with Member States and with United Nations programmes, funds and relevant agencies, as well as other relevant regional organizations and agencies and non-governmental organizations, and to provide, on request, assistance in implementing the outcome of the special session;

(*b*) To strengthen dialogue and cooperation with multilateral development banks and with international financial institutions so that they may undertake lending and programming activities related to drug control in interested and affected countries to implement the outcome of the special session, and to keep the Commission on Narcotic Drugs informed of further progress made in this area;

(*c*) To take into account the outcome of the special session, to include in its report on illicit traffic in drugs an updated assessment of worldwide trends in illicit traffic and transit in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including methods and routes used, and to recommend ways and means of improving the capacity of States along those routes to deal with all aspects of the drug problem;

(*d*) To publish the *World Drug Report*, with comprehensive and balanced information about the world drug problem, and to seek additional extrabudgetary resources for its publication in all official languages;

4. *Urges* all Governments to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the Programme by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, to enable it to continue, expand and strengthen its operational and technical cooperation activities;

5. *Urges* the International Narcotics Control Board to increase efforts to implement all its mandates under international drug control conventions and to continue to cooperate with Governments, including by offering advice to Member States that request it;

6. *Notes* that the Board needs sufficient resources to carry out all its mandates, and therefore urges Member States to commit themselves in a common effort to assigning adequate and sufficient budgetary resources to the Board, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/20 of 23 July 1996, and emphasizes the need to maintain its capacity, including through the provision of appropriate means by the Secretary-General and adequate technical support by the Programme;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, in all regions of the world, and the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and encourages them to continue to contribute to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation, taking into account the outcome of the special session;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[67] and, taking into account the promotion of integrated reporting, requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the outcome of the twentieth special session, including on the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, and the present resolution.

ANNEX

Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction

PREAMBLE

1. In the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,[50] Member States:

(*a*) Recognized that demand reduction was an indispensable pillar in the global approach to countering the world drug problem and committed themselves:

- (i) To introducing into their national programmes and strategies the provisions set out in the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction;[51]
- (ii) To working closely with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to develop action-oriented strategies to assist in the implementation of the Declaration;
- (iii) To establishing 2003 as a target date for new or enhanced drug demand reduction strategies and programmes set up in close collaboration with public health, social welfare and law enforcement authorities;
- (iv) To achieving significant and measurable results in the field of demand reduction by 2008;

(*b*) Called upon all States to report biennially to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on their efforts to meet the above-mentioned goals and targets for 2003 and 2008.

2. The present Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction is offered as guidance to Member States in implementing the above-mentioned commitments. Organizations of the United Nations system,[68] other international organizations, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations are invited to provide support to Member States in implementing the Action Plan, according to their available resources, specific mandates and the different

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[67] A/54/186.

[68] This may include, but is not restricted to, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the Joint United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome, the International Labour Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Health Organization, as well as international financial institutions such as the World Bank.

roles that they are to play in achieving the goals set out in the Declaration.

3. The Action Plan reflects the emphasis in the Declaration on the need for a comprehensive and balanced approach involving demand reduction and supply reduction, each reinforcing the other, together with the appropriate application of the principle of shared responsibility. It stresses the need for services responsible for prevention, including law enforcement agencies, to transmit the same message and use similar language.

4. The Action Plan is guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, in particular respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, non-interference in the internal affairs of States, human rights and fundamental freedoms and the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.[69] It allows for flexible approaches to reflect social, cultural, religious and political differences and it acknowledges that efforts to reduce illicit drug demand are at different levels of implementation in different countries.

5. The Action Plan recognizes that progress to reduce the demand for illicit drugs should be seen in the context of the need for programmes to reduce the demand for substances of abuse. Such programmes should be integrated to promote cooperation among all concerned, should include a wide variety of appropriate interventions, should promote health and social well-being among individuals, families and communities and should reduce the adverse consequences of drug abuse for the individual and for society as a whole.

6. The Action Plan focuses on the need to design demand reduction campaigns and programmes to meet the needs of the population in general, as well as those of specific population groups, taking into account differences in gender, culture and education and paying special attention to youth.[70] Demand reduction efforts should be developed with the participation of target groups, giving special attention to a gender perspective.

I. THE COMMITMENT

7. *Objective 1*. To apply the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction in order to achieve significant and measurable results in reducing the demand for drugs by 2008 and to report on those results to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. That would entail the following:

(*a*) *Impact*. Greater compliance with the spirit and principles of the Declaration and the achievement of significant and measurable results in reducing the demand for drugs;

(*b*) *Outputs*. Biennial reports by each country on the efforts to implement the Declaration and reduce the demand for drugs and on the results achieved;

(*c*) *National action*. Applying the Declaration and preparing a biennial report containing measurable results for submission to the Commission;

(*d*) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme to collate national reports and report on its findings to the Commission.

8. *Objective 2*. To secure, at the highest political level possible, a long-term commitment to the implementation of a national strategy for reducing illicit drug demand and to establish a mechanism for ensuring full coordination and participation of the relevant authorities and sectors of society. That would entail the following:

(*a*) *Impact*. Higher priority for and long-term commitment to demand reduction and effective coordination between relevant sectors of society;

(*b*) *Outputs*. A mechanism for ensuring ongoing commitment to the strategy by: (i) fostering linkages and integration with other relevant plans and programmes, for instance, those concerning health, including public health issues such as those relating to the human immunodeficiency virus, acquired immunodeficiency syndrome and hepatitis C, as well as education, housing, employment, social exclusion, law enforcement and crime prevention; (ii) encouraging the participation of all sectors of society; and (iii) providing for the assessment and reporting of results and refinement of the strategy as necessary;

(*c*) *National action*. Consultation and cooperation with potential partners in developing multisectoral plans and obtaining long-term commitments coordinated by the appropriate national authorities;

(*d*) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to provide appropriate assistance in establishing coordination mechanisms for those requesting it.

9. *Objective 3*. To develop and implement, by 2003, national strategies fully incorporating the guiding principles set out in the Declaration. That would entail the following:

(*a*) *Impact*. An integrated, balanced, efficient and effective national strategy for addressing drug issues, with major emphasis on demand reduction;

(*b*) *Outputs*. A strategy document tailored to national needs, characteristics and cultures, specifying the role of agencies involved, the time-frame for activities and the goals;

(*c*) *National action*. This would include: (i) developing a national strategy by assessing the problem, defining the needs and resources, establishing priorities and goals, setting time-frames for specific activities and results and determining the roles of the agencies concerned; (ii) implementing the strategy through the development of a national action plan with a multisectoral approach, endorsed by an appropriate national body; and (iii) developing a framework for assessing and reporting results and reporting on the strategy and its implementation to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

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[69] Resolution 217 A (III).

[70] As expressed, for example, in "The Vision from Banff", drawn up by the Youth Vision Jeunesse Drug Abuse Prevention Forum, held in Banff, Canada, from 14 to 18 April 1998.

(*d*) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to provide guidance and assistance to those requesting it and to set up a database on national drug control strategies.

II. ASSESSING THE PROBLEM

10. *Objective 4*. To assess the causes and consequences of the misuse of all substances in each country and to communicate those causes and consequences to policy makers, planners and the general public in order to develop practical measures, to establish a national system to monitor drug problems and trends and to record and evaluate intervention programmes and their impact on a regular basis using national indicators and, taking into account existing national and regional data systems for monitoring drug problems and trends, as well as the goals and targets established for 2003 and 2008 in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,[60] to work towards establishing a core set of regionally and internationally recognized indicators. That would entail the following:

(*a*) *Impact*. Programmes and policies that are based on precise and timely evidence on the causes and consequences of drug abuse;

(*b*) *Outputs*. They would include: (i) a regular national report on the current drug situation and trends; and (ii) a periodic assessment of the health, social and economic costs of drug abuse and the benefits associated with different measures and actions, on both the demand and the supply sides;

(*c*) *National action*. This would include: (i) establishing a national system for data collection and analysis of drug abuse; (ii) undertaking periodic assessments of the costs to society of drug abuse and of the medium- and long-term benefits to society if the problem is reduced; and (iii) using the information for drug policy and programme development;

(*d*) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations: (i) to provide advice and technical assistance to countries requesting it on the establishment of national systems for monitoring the drug abuse problem, including regionally and internationally recognized core indicators; and (ii) to promote the development of methodologies for assessing the costs and consequences of drug abuse and for undertaking cost-benefit analyses of various measures and actions.

11. *Objective 5*. To develop research programmes at the national and regional levels in scientific fields concerning drug demand reduction and to disseminate widely the results so that strategies for reducing illicit drug demand may be elaborated on a solid scientific basis. That would entail the following:

(*a*) *Impact*. Improved drug demand reduction strategies based on scientific evidence;

(*b*) *Outputs*. Programmes for research on issues related to drug demand reduction;

(*c*) *National action*. Identifying research needs, developing research programmes, mobilizing the resources required and promoting the application of research findings;

(*d*) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to encourage research into a wide range of drug demand reduction issues and the dissemination and application of research findings.

III. TACKLING THE PROBLEM

12. *Objective 6*. To identify and develop programmes for reducing illicit drug demand in a wide variety of health and social contexts and to encourage collaboration among those programmes, which should cover all areas of drug abuse prevention, ranging from discouraging the initial use of illicit drugs to reducing the negative health and social consequences of drug abuse, and should include continuing education, not only for all educational levels, beginning at an early age, but also in the workplace, the family and the community, and to develop programmes to make the public aware of the problem of drug abuse and of the full continuum of risks involved in such abuse and to provide information on and services for early intervention, counselling, treatment, rehabilitation, relapse prevention, aftercare and social reintegration to those in need. That would entail the following:

(*a*) *Impact*. Reduction of drug abuse and related health and social consequences;

(*b*) *Outputs*. Easily accessible drug demand reduction programmes, integrated into broader health and social programmes, covering where possible the full spectrum of services, including reducing the adverse health and social consequences of drug abuse;

(*c*) *National action*. Developing and implementing specific demand reduction activities at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels of prevention that meet the needs of various target groups and that are integrated into the health, education and other related sectors;

(*d*) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to provide guidance and assistance to those requesting it and to facilitate the sharing of information on best strategies.

IV. FORGING PARTNERSHIPS

13. *Objective 7*. To identify how different national and local institutions and organizations may contribute to efforts to reduce illicit drug demand and to promote the linking of those institutions and organizations. That would entail the following:

(*a*) *Impact*. More efficient utilization of resources and local ownership of programmes;

(*b*) *Outputs*. Identification of the roles of national and local institutions and organizations and of networking arrangements between them with a view to improving their contribution to and the effectiveness of national strategies;

(*c*) *National action*. This would include: (i) identifying drug demand reduction programmes run by various agencies, governmental and non-governmental, and defining their role in the national strategy; and (ii) promoting and reinforcing collaboration and networking among them;

(*d*) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to compile a collection of examples of collaborative and cooperative arrangements that are in place in Member States to promote and reinforce networking and to facilitate the sharing of information on best strategies.

V. FOCUSING ON SPECIAL NEEDS

14. *Objective 8*. To enhance the quality of programmes for reducing illicit drug demand, especially in terms of their relevance to population groups, taking into account their cultural diversity and specific needs, such as gender, age and socially, culturally and geographically marginalized groups. That would entail the following:

(*a*) *Impact*. Improvement in the quality and relevance of services offered;

(*b*) *Outputs*. Guidelines for programmes and services, taking into consideration cultural diversity and specific needs;

(*c*) *National action*. This would include: (i) establishing guidelines for the development and implementation of programmes; and (ii) monitoring and evaluating programmes according to established guidelines in order to improve programme quality and increase cost-effectiveness;

(*d*) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to promote the development of guidelines and to facilitate the sharing of information among Member States.

15. *Objective 9*. To target the particular needs of groups most at risk of abusing drugs, through the development, in cooperation with those groups, of specially designed communication strategies and effective, relevant and accessible programmes. That would entail the following:

(*a*) *Impact*. Reduction of drug abuse among groups at risk and a reduction in the adverse health and social consequences of drug abuse;

(*b*) *Outputs*. Development of programmes and communication strategies for specific risk groups, in particular youth;

(*c*) *National action*. This would include: (i) identifying risk factors and groups at risk and developing programmes and communication strategies in cooperation with such groups to address their specific needs; and (ii) establishing and supporting mechanisms, including networks that facilitate the participation of young people in the design and implementation of programmes intended for them;

(*d*) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations: (i) to promote the participation of target groups in the design of projects and facilitate the sharing of information on best strategies; and (ii) to facilitate the creation of an international network promoting regular contact among youth involved in demand reduction activities and allowing them to stay informed and learn from one another.

16. *Objective 10*. To provide prevention, education, treatment or rehabilitation services to offenders who misuse drugs, whether in prison or in the community, as an addition to or, where appropriate and consistent with the national laws and policies of Member States, as an alternative to punishment or conviction, and to provide, in particular, drug-abusing offenders held in prison with services to enable them to overcome their dependence and to facilitate their reintegration in the community. That would entail the following:

(*a*) *Impact*. A reduction of drug abuse among offenders and, where appropriate, positive social integration or reintegration;

(*b*) *Outputs*. Comprehensive drug prevention, education, treatment, rehabilitation and social integration programmes for offenders;

(*c*) *National action*. Cooperation among institutions and organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, offering health, social, justice, correctional, vocational training and employment services in order to provide preventive care, education, treatment and rehabilitation for offenders and, where appropriate, programmes to enable their integration into the community;

(*d*) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to facilitate the sharing of information on best strategies.

VI. SENDING THE RIGHT MESSAGE

17. *Objective 11*. To undertake public information campaigns aimed at the population in general to promote health, raise awareness in society and improve people's understanding of the drug problem in the community and of the need to curb that problem, to evaluate those campaigns by establishing a follow-up system to determine their impact and to carry out research into the requirements of particular population groups, such as parents, teachers, community leaders and drug users, with regard to information on drugs and services. That would entail the following:

(*a*) *Impact*. Enhanced knowledge and awareness of the drug problem, of the need to take action and of the available support mechanisms;

(*b*) *Outputs*. Appropriately targeted public information campaigns based on knowledge acquired from research to promote greater awareness of the drug problem and to provide information on available resources and services;

(*c*) *National action*. Assessing needs and including and evaluating public information activities as part of national drug strategies;

(*d*) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to facilitate the sharing of information on best strategies.

18. *Objective 12*. To develop information campaigns that are relevant and precise so that they take into account the social and cultural characteristics of the target population. That would entail the following:

(*a*) *Impact*. Increased knowledge and awareness among drug users and specific social and cultural groups about drugs and the adverse health and social consequences of drug use, as well as the availability of services;

(*b*) *Outputs*. Effective and culturally appropriate information campaigns that encourage and help drug users to reduce their involvement with drugs and prevent or reduce adverse health and social problems and inform them about available services;

(*c*) *National action*. Providing information on drugs and drug abuse and on how to obtain help for those most in need, in particular drug users. Information should be based on knowledge acquired from research and developed in collaboration with the target audience;

(*d*) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to facilitate the sharing of information on best strategies.

19. *Objective 13*. To promote information, education and communication programmes for social mediators, for example, political, religious, education, cultural, business and union leaders, peer educators and representatives of non-governmental organizations and the media worldwide, so that they may convey appropriate and accurate messages about drug abuse. That would entail the following:

(*a*) *Impact*. Enhanced knowledge and skills among social mediators in conveying information about drug abuse;

(*b*) *Outputs*. Programmes and other activities to inform and educate social mediators and to develop their communication skills;

(*c*) *National action*. Developing training strategies for social mediators;

(*d*) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to facilitate the sharing of information on best strategies in this field.

VII. BUILDING ON EXPERIENCE

20. *Objective 14*. To train planners and practitioners of governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, and others within the community on a permanent basis in all aspects of demand reduction activities and strategic programming by identifying local, national, subregional and regional human resources and using their experience in the design of programmes in order to guarantee their continuity and to create and strengthen regional, subregional, national and local training and technical resource networks and, with the possible assistance of regional and international organizations, to facilitate the exchange of experiences and expertise by encouraging States to include demand reduction personnel from other States in training programmes that they have developed. That would entail the following:

(*a*) *Impact*. Improved knowledge and skills of practitioners in demand reduction, facilitating the development of more efficient, effective and sustainable services;

(*b*) *Outputs*. Strategies for the development and expansion of the pool of technical expertise supporting planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluation of national demand reduction programmes;

(*c*) *National action*. This would include: (i) identifying those involved in planning and implementing programmes, from planners to practitioners and institutions and individuals involved with service delivery, in order to enhance their capacity to respond to the problem; (ii) supporting the design and implementation of training programmes, reviewed and updated on a regular basis, to form part of a continuing education programme for trainers; and (iii) designing and instituting training programmes for the various sectors involved in demand reduction programmes;

(*d*) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to facilitate: (i) the sharing of information on best strategies; (ii) the development of guidelines on the development of curricula and training programmes, including distance learning, and assistance for those requesting it; and (iii) the intercountry exchange of experts for training purposes and the participation of foreign personnel in national training programmes developed by Member States.

21. *Objective 15*. To evaluate strategies and activities for reducing illicit drug demand and to develop mechanisms for intercountry, regional and interregional advocacy coordination, cooperation and collaboration in order to identify, share and expand best practices and effective activities in the development and implementation of drug demand reduction programmes. That would entail the following:

(*a*) *Impact*. Demand reduction programmes that are based soundly on validated experience and evidence;

(*b*) *Outputs*. They would include: (i) domestic evaluation results of strategies and activities and mechanisms for cooperation and data sharing; and (ii) mechanisms for facilitating the exchange of evaluation results and other data assessing the effectiveness of strategies and activities at the domestic, regional and interregional levels;

(*c*) *National action*. This would include: (i) monitoring and evaluating demand reduction strategies and activities and utilizing the results to inform and improve national plans, and (ii) participating in coordinating mechanisms for intercountry, regional and international exchange of information;

(*d*) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to facilitate the exchange of information by establishing coordination mechanisms.

22. *Objective 16*. To create an international system of information on illicit drug demand reduction by linking existing databases managed by international, regional and national organizations in order to provide a network of information on knowledge and experiences that, to the extent possible, would use the above-mentioned core set of regionally and internationally recognized indicators and to enable comparisons of national experiences to be made. That would entail the following:

(*a*) *Impact*. Improved access to information, experiences and practices to facilitate the better design of programmes and policies;

(*b*) *Outputs*. National, regional and international mechanisms allowing easy access to databases and networks for the exchange of knowledge and experience of demand reduction;

(*c*) *National action*. Establishing and maintaining databases and facilitating linkages for international networking;

(*d*) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to participate in the creation of an international mechanism by facilitating networking and linkages between databases.

RESOLUTION 54/133

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/598 and Corr.1 and 2)

54/133. Traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 53/117 of 9 December 1998 and its other relevant resolutions and decisions, as well as those of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights,[71]

Recalling the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on traditional practices affecting the health of women and children and of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences,

Reaffirming the obligation of all States to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as stated in the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming also the obligations contained in later human rights instruments, in particular articles 5 and 12 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[72] article 24 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[73] and article 12 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[74]

Bearing in mind article 2, paragraph (*a*), of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[75] and article 5, paragraph 5, of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,[76]

Recalling the provisions of the outcome of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993,[77] the International Conference on Population and Development,[78] the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, held at Cairo from 29 April to 8 May 1995,[79] and the Fourth World Conference on Women[80] pertaining to traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls,

Recalling also general recommendation 14 concerning female circumcision adopted by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women at its ninth session,[81] as well as paragraphs 11, 20 and 24 (*l*) of general recommendation 19 concerning violence against women adopted by the Committee at its eleventh session[82] and paragraphs 15 (*d*) and 18 of general recommendation 24 concerning article 12 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women on women and health adopted by the Committee at its twentieth session,[83]

Welcoming the fact that the First Ministerial Conference on Human Rights in Africa of the Organization of African Unity, in the Grand-Baie (Mauritius) Declaration and Plan of Action adopted on 16 April 1999, urged all African States to work assiduously towards the elimination of discrimination against women and the abolition of cultural practices which dehumanize or demean women and children,

Welcoming also the Ouagadougou Declaration adopted on 6 May 1999 at the Regional Workshop on the Fight against Female Genital Mutilation in the countries members of the West African Economic and Monetary Union,[84]

Reaffirming that such traditional or customary practices constitute a definite form of violence against women and girls and a serious form of violation of their human rights,

Expressing concern at the continuing large-scale existence of these practices,

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[71] The Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities was renamed the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 1999/256 of 27 July 1999.

[72] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[73] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[74] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[75] Resolution 48/104.

[76] Resolution 36/55.

[77] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[78] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[79] See A/CONF.169/16/Rev.1.

[80] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[81] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 38* and corrigendum (A/45/38 and Corr.1), chap. IV, para. 438.

[82] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/47/38), chap. I.

[83] Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/54/38/Rev.1), part one, chap. I, sect. A.

[84] E/CN.4/Sub.2/1999/14, annex.

Stressing that the elimination of such practices requires greater efforts and commitment from Governments, the international community and civil society, including non-governmental and community organizations, and that fundamental changes in societal attitudes are required,

1. *Welcomes*:

(*a*) The report of the Secretary-General,[85] which provides encouraging examples of national and international developments;

(*b*) The fact that the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Human Rights addressed the issue of harmful traditional or customary practices at their sessions in 1999;

(*c*) The fact that the General Assembly, at its special session for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, has addressed the issue of harmful practices;

(*d*) The efforts undertaken by United Nations bodies, programmes and organizations, including the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Population Fund, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Development Fund for Women, to address the issue of traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, and encourages them to continue to coordinate their efforts;

(*e*) The work carried out by the Special Ambassador for the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation of the United Nations Population Fund, including her visits to a number of countries, and the fact that she has been invited to other countries;

(*f*) The work carried out by the Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children and other non-governmental and community organizations, including women's organizations, in raising awareness of the harmful effects of such practices, in particular of female genital mutilation;

(*g*) The fact that the progress made towards the elimination of traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls will be considered during the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century";

2. *Emphasizes* the need for technical and financial assistance to developing countries working to achieve the elimination of traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls from United Nations funds and programmes, international and regional financial institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as the need for assistance to non-governmental organizations and community-based groups active in this field from the international community;

3. *Calls upon* all States:

(*a*) To ratify or accede to, if they have not yet done so, the relevant human rights treaties, in particular the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[72] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[73] and to respect and implement fully their obligations under any such treaties to which they are parties;

(*b*) To implement their international commitments in this field, *inter alia*, under the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women,[80] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[78] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights;[77]

(*c*) To collect and disseminate basic data about the occurrence of traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, including female genital mutilation;

(*d*) To develop, adopt and implement national legislation and policies that prohibit traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, including female genital mutilation, and to prosecute the perpetrators of such practices;

(*e*) To establish or strengthen support services to respond to the needs of victims by, *inter alia*, developing comprehensive and accessible sexual and reproductive health services and providing training to health-care providers at all levels on the harmful health consequences of such practices;

(*f*) To establish, if they have not done so, a concrete national mechanism for the implementation and monitoring of relevant legislation, law enforcement and national policies;

(*g*) To intensify efforts to raise awareness of and to mobilize international and national public opinion concerning the harmful effects of traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, including female genital mutilation, in particular through education, the dissemination of information, training, the media, the arts and local community meetings, in order to achieve the total elimination of these practices;

(*h*) To promote the inclusion of the discussion of the empowerment of women and their human rights in primary and secondary education curricula and to address specifically traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls in such curricula and in the training of health personnel;

(*i*) To promote men's understanding of their roles and responsibilities with regard to promoting the elimination of harmful practices, such as female genital mutilation;

(*j*) To involve, among others, public opinion leaders, educators, religious leaders, chiefs, traditional leaders, medical practitioners, women's health and family planning organizations, the arts and the media in publicity campaigns with a view to promoting a collective and individual awareness of the human rights of women and girls and of how harmful traditional or customary practices violate those rights;

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[85] A/54/341

(k) To continue to take specific measures to increase the capacity of communities, including immigrant and refugee communities, in which female genital mutilation is practised, to engage in activities aimed at preventing and eliminating such practices;

(l) To explore, through consultations with communities and religious and cultural groups and their leaders, alternatives to harmful traditional or customary practices, in particular where those practices form part of a ritual ceremony or rite of passage;

(m) To cooperate closely with the Special Rapporteur of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on traditional practices affecting the health of women and the girl child and to respond to her inquiries;

(n) To cooperate closely with relevant specialized agencies and United Nations funds and programmes, as well as with relevant non-governmental and community organizations, in a joint effort to eradicate traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls;

(o) To include in their reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and other relevant treaty bodies specific information on measures taken to eliminate traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, including female genital mutilation, and to prosecute the perpetrators of such practices;

4. *Invites*:

(a) Relevant specialized agencies, United Nations bodies and non-governmental organizations to exchange information on the subject of the present resolution, and encourages the exchange of such information between non-governmental organizations active in this field and the bodies monitoring the implementation of relevant human rights treaties;

(b) The Commission on Human Rights to address this subject at its fifty-sixth session, thus allowing a more comprehensive understanding of the impact of traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls on the human rights of women;

(c) Governments, organizations and individuals in a position to do so to contribute to the trust fund that supports the work of the Special Ambassador for the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation of the United Nations Population Fund;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To make his report available to relevant meetings within the United Nations system;

(b) To report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, with a special focus on recent national and international developments, including examples of national best practices and international cooperation.

RESOLUTION 54/134

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/598 and Corr.1 and 2)

54/134. International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/104 of 20 December 1993, and its resolution 52/86 of 12 December 1997, entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice measures to eliminate violence against women",

Recalling also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[86] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[87] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[87] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[88] and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[89]

Taking note of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women adopted by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States at its twenty-fourth regular session, held in Belém, Brazil, from 6 to 10 June 1994,[90] and general recommendation 19 on violence against women adopted by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women at its eleventh session,[91]

Concerned that violence against women is an obstacle to the achievement of equality, development and peace, as recognized in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women[92] and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women,[93] which recommended a set of integral measures to prevent and eliminate violence against women, and to the full implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Concerned also that some groups of women, such as women belonging to minority groups, indigenous women, refugee women, migrant women, women living in rural or remote communities, destitute women, women in institutions or in detention, the girl child, women with disabilities, elderly women and women in situations of armed conflict, are especially vulnerable to violence,

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[86] Resolution 217 A (III).

[87] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[88] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[89] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[90] *Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments*, vol. II, *Regional Instruments* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.XIV.1), sect. A.7.

[91] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/47/38), chap. I.

[92] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15–26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

[93] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Recognizing that violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women, which have led to domination over and discrimination against women by men and to the prevention of their full advancement, and that violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into subordinate positions, compared with men,

Recognizing also that the human rights of women and of the girl child are an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights,[94] and recognizing further the need to promote and protect all human rights of women and girls,[95]

Alarmed that women do not fully enjoy their human rights and fundamental freedoms, and concerned about the long-standing failure to protect and promote those rights and freedoms in relation to violence against women,[96]

Recognizing with satisfaction the cooperation provided by the relevant agencies, bodies, funds and organs of the United Nations system to different countries in the fight to eradicate violence against women, in fulfilment of their respective mandates,

Recognizing the efforts made by civil society and non-governmental organizations that have contributed to creating a worldwide social conscience of the negative impact, both on social and on economic life, of violence against women,

Reiterating that, according to article 1 of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, the term "violence against women" means any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life,

1. *Decides* to designate 25 November as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women;

2. *Invites*, as appropriate, Governments, the relevant agencies, bodies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, and other international organizations and non-governmental organizations, to organize on that day activities designed to raise public awareness of the problem of violence against women.

RESOLUTION 54/135

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/598 and Corr.1 and 2)

54/135. Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/93 of 12 December 1997,

Recalling also the importance attached to the problems of rural women by the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[97] the Beijing Declaration[98] and the Platform for Action[99] adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[100]

Noting that some effects of the evolving globalization process may deepen the socio-economic marginalization of rural women,

Noting also that the globalization process has had some benefits by providing opportunities for wage employment for rural women in new sectors,

Mindful of the fact that the available data and existing tools of measurement and analysis are insufficient for a full understanding of the gender implications of the processes of globalization and rural change, and their impact on rural women,

Recognizing the urgent need to take appropriate measures aimed at further improving the situation of women in rural areas,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[101]

2. *Invites* Member States, in collaboration with United Nations organizations and civil society, to continue their efforts to implement the outcome of and to ensure an integrated and coordinated follow-up to United Nations conferences and summits, including their five-year reviews, and to attach greater importance to the improvement of the situation of rural women in their national, regional and global development strategies by, *inter alia*:

(*a*) Investing in and strengthening efforts to meet the basic needs of rural women through capacity-building and human resources development measures and the provision of a safe and reliable water supply, health services, including family planning services, and nutritional programmes as well as education and literacy programmes and social support measures;

(*b*) Designing and revising laws to ensure that, where private ownership of land and property exists, rural women are accorded full and equal rights to own land and other property, including through the right to inheritance, and undertaking administrative reforms and other necessary measures to give women the same right as men to credit, capital, appropriate technologies and access to markets and information;

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[94] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. I, para. 18.

[95] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I, para. 9.

[96] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A, resolution 1999/42.

[97] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

[98] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[99] Ibid., annex II.

[100] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[101] A/54/123-E/1999/66.

(*c*) Integrating a gender perspective into the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development policies and programmes;

(*d*) Providing microcredit and other financial and business services to a greater number of women in rural areas for generating self-employment among them and eradicating poverty;

(*e*) Pursuing the political and socio-economic empowerment of rural women by supporting their full and equal participation in decision-making at all levels, including in rural institutions;

(*f*) Placing a renewed focus on the issue of rural women within the context of the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration[illegible] and the Platform for Action[illegible] adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women;

(*g*) Taking steps towards ensuring that women's unpaid work and contributions to on-farm and off-farm production, including income generated in the informal sector, are visible and recorded in economic surveys and statistics at the local and national levels;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the relevant international organizations, specialized agencies, funds and programmes, and in consultation with Member States, to prepare a comprehensive report on the situation of rural women and challenges faced by them, based, *inter alia*, on the outcome of an expert group meeting, which will draw from the contributions and case studies provided by experts from various regions, and to incorporate its findings and recommendations in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/136

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/598 and Corr.1 and 2)

54/136. United Nations Development Fund for Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 39/125 of 14 December 1984, in which it decided to make the United Nations Development Fund for Women a separate and identifiable entity in autonomous association with the United Nations Development Programme, as well as its resolution 52/94 of 12 December 1997,

Recalling also the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[illegible] which recognizes the special role of the Fund in the promotion of the empowerment of women,

Noting the importance of the work of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women in policy and programme directions, as stipulated in the annex to resolution 39/125,

Welcoming the contributions the Fund has made in supporting initiatives of Member States, United Nations organizations and non-governmental organizations to formulate and implement activities that promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, concentrating on three thematic areas: strengthening women's economic capacity, engendering governance and leadership and promoting women's human rights and the elimination of all forms of violence against women,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the note by the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women;[illegible]

2. *Emphasizes* the important work that the Fund undertakes within the framework of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women[illegible] and in supporting the implementation of recommendations related to the empowerment of women and gender mainstreaming from other United Nations world conferences, such as the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, the International Conference on Population and Development, held at Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994, and the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995;

3. *Notes* the progress achieved in the implementation of the Fund's strategy and business plan, 1997–1999, adopted in 1997;

4. *Encourages* the Fund to cooperate with other partners of the United Nations system, Governments and non-governmental organizations in assessment activities at all levels that will contribute to the five-year review of the Platform for Action, including efforts to improve capacity in the collection and dissemination of sex-disaggregated data and accountability mechanisms at the country level;

5. *Commends* the Fund for its leadership role in convening United Nations inter-agency campaigns to end violence against women in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and Asia and the Pacific throughout 1998 and continuing in 1999 and beyond, and the United Nations inter-agency global videoconference entitled "A World Free of Violence against Women", which was held on 8 March 1999;

6. *Recognizes* the progress achieved by the Fund in increasing the size and impact of its Trust Fund in Support of Action to Eliminate Violence against Women and the importance of incorporating a learning component to extract and share good practices in eliminating violence against women, and reiterates the call to Governments, non-

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[illegible] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[illegible] A/54/225.

governmental organizations and the public and private sectors to consider contributing or increasing contributions to the Trust Fund;[154]

7. *Encourages* the Fund to continue to assist Governments in implementing the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[155] in order to advance gender equality at all levels, including by reinforcing the cooperation between Governments and civil society, especially women's organizations;

8. *Requests* the Fund, in conjunction with other relevant United Nations agencies, to continue the activities that it is undertaking to raise awareness about and strengthen the capacities of women in situations of armed conflict and to contribute to promoting the integration of a gender perspective into all peace-building activities, including through support to the full and equal participation of women at all levels, in all forums;

9. *Also requests* the Fund to continue its efforts to mainstream a gender perspective in United Nations operational activities, in particular through its leadership of the Sub-Group on Gender of the United Nations Development Group and its convening of United Nations inter-agency thematic groups on gender to support the resident coordinator system;

10. *Commends* the Fund and the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Volunteers as its collaborating partners for developing innovative mechanisms to expand the gender expertise available to the United Nations resident coordinator system at the country level, and encourages other United Nations organizations to develop similar initiatives that make use of the expertise and experience of the Fund in gender mainstreaming and the empowerment of women;

11. *Recognizes* that the Fund has been able to secure increased contributions for its work, and expresses its appreciation to Member States and private organizations, including the United Nations Foundation, and other foundations, whose increased contributions demonstrate their commitment to the issues on which the Fund is working;

12. *Urges* Member States, non-governmental organizations and members of the private sector that have contributed to the Fund to continue to contribute and to consider increasing their financial contributions, and invites others to consider contributing to the Fund.

RESOLUTION 54/137

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/598 and Corr.1 and 2)

54/137. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/118 of 9 December 1998,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter, is to promote universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind, including distinction as to sex,

Affirming that women and men should participate equally in social, economic and political development, should contribute equally to such development and should share equally in improved conditions of life,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[156] in which the Conference reaffirmed that the human rights of women and the girl child were an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights,

Acknowledging the need for a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of the human rights of women, which includes the integration of the human rights of women into the mainstream of United Nations activities system-wide, and, in this context, calling for the implementation of agreed conclusions 1998/2 of 28 July 1998 of the Economic and Social Council,[157]

Noting that 1999 is the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[158] welcoming the progress made in its implementation, but concerned about the remaining challenges,

Bearing in mind its resolution 54/4 of 6 October 1999, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Bearing in mind also the recommendation of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women that national reports include information on the implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women,[159]

Welcoming the growing number of States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, which now stands at one hundred sixty-five,

Noting the elaboration and adoption by the Committee, at its twentieth session, of general recommendation 24 on article 12 of the Convention, on women and health,[160]

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[154] See Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/12, sect. I.B.

[155] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[156] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[157] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (A/53/3 and Corr.1), chap. VI, para. 3.

[158] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[159] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[160] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/54/38/Rev.1), part one, chap. I, sect. A.

Having considered the report of the Committee on its twentieth and twenty-first sessions,[111]

Expressing concern at the great number of reports that are overdue and that continue to be overdue, in particular initial reports, which constitutes an obstacle to the full implementation of the Convention,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[112]

2. *Urges* all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so as soon as possible, so that universal ratification of the Convention can be achieved by the year 2000;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of full compliance by States parties with their obligations under the Convention;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the adoption by the General Assembly, by resolution 54/4, of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

5. *Notes* that some States parties have modified their reservations, expresses satisfaction that some reservations have been withdrawn, and urges States to limit the extent of any reservations they lodge to the Convention, to formulate any such reservations as precisely and as narrowly as possible, to ensure that no reservations are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention or otherwise incompatible with international treaty law, to review their reservations regularly with a view to withdrawing them and to withdraw reservations that are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention or that are otherwise incompatible with international treaty law;

6. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to make every possible effort to submit their reports on the implementation of the Convention in accordance with article 18 thereof and with the guidelines provided by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and to cooperate fully with the Committee in the presentation of their reports;

7. *Encourages* the Secretariat to extend further technical assistance to States parties, upon their request, in the preparation of reports, in particular initial reports, and invites Governments to contribute to these efforts;

8. *Commends* the Committee on its contributions to the effective implementation of the Convention;

9. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to take appropriate measures so that acceptance of the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention by a two-thirds majority of States parties can be reached as soon as possible in order for the amendment to enter into force;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* for the additional meeting time allowing the Committee to hold two sessions annually, each of three weeks' duration, preceded by a pre-session working group of the Committee;

11. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure adequate financing and staff support for the effective functioning of the Committee, including for the dissemination of information;

12. *Invites* Governments, agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental as well as non-governmental organizations to disseminate the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;

13. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their mandates, to continue to assist States parties, upon their request, in implementing the Convention and, in this regard, to pay attention to the concluding comments as well as the general recommendations of the Committee;

14. *Encourages* all relevant parts of the United Nations system to continue to build women's knowledge and understanding of and capacity to utilize human rights instruments, in particular the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;

15. *Welcomes* the submission of reports by the specialized agencies at the invitation of the Committee on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities and the contribution of non-governmental organizations to the work of the Committee, and encourages those agencies to continue their submission of reports;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/138

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/598 and Corr.1 and 2)

54/138. Violence against women migrant workers

The General Assembly,

Recalling all previous resolutions on violence against women migrant workers adopted by the General Assembly, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as well as the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[113]

Reaffirming the outcome of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993,[114] and its five-year review, the International Conference on Population and Development[115] and its five-year review and the Fourth World Conference on Women,[116] specifically as the results pertain to women migrant workers,

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[111] Ibid., parts one and two.

[112] A/54/224 and Corr.1.

[113] Resolution 48/104.

[114] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[115] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

Emphasizing the need for objective, comprehensive, broad-based information and a wide exchange of experiences and lessons learned by individual Member States and civil society in the formulation of policies and concrete strategies to address the problem of violence against women migrant workers,

Encouraging the participation of civil society in developing and implementing appropriate measures to support innovative partnerships among public agencies, non-governmental organizations and other members of civil society for combating violence against women migrant workers,

Taking note with appreciation of the recommendations of the Working Group of Intergovernmental Experts on the Human Rights of Migrants of the Commission on Human Rights,[117]

Noting the large numbers of women from developing countries and some countries with economies in transition who continue to venture forth to more affluent countries in search of a living for themselves and their families as a consequence of poverty, unemployment and other socio-economic conditions, and acknowledging the duty of the countries of origin to work for conditions that provide employment and security to their citizens,

Realizing that the movement of a significant number of women migrant workers may be facilitated and made possible through fraudulent or irregular documentation and arranged marriages and that, by the nature of their status and movement, women migrant workers are more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation,

Acknowledging the economic benefits that accrue to both the country of origin and the country of destination from the employment of women migrant workers,

Recognizing the importance of joint and collaborative approaches at the bilateral, regional, interregional and international levels in protecting and promoting the rights and welfare of women migrant workers,

Encouraged by some measures adopted by some countries of destination to alleviate the plight of women migrant workers residing within their areas of jurisdiction,

Underlining the important role of relevant United Nations treaty bodies in monitoring the implementation of human rights conventions and the relevant special procedures, within their respective mandates, in addressing the problem of violence against women migrant workers and in protecting and promoting their rights and welfare,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[118]

2. *Also welcomes* the appointment of a Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants;

3. *Requests* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the performance of the tasks and duties mandated and to furnish all information requested, including by reacting promptly to the urgent appeals of the Special Rapporteur;

4. *Encourages* Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to share information on violence against women migrant workers with the Special Rapporteur with a view to requesting the Special Rapporteur to recommend concrete measures and actions to address the problem;

5. *Also encourages* Governments to give serious consideration to inviting the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries so as to enable him or her to fulfil the mandate effectively;

6. *Urges* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to strengthen further their national efforts to protect and promote the rights and welfare of women migrant workers, including through sustained bilateral, regional, interregional and international cooperation, by developing strategies and joint action and taking into account the innovative approaches and experiences of individual Member States, and to establish and maintain continuing dialogues to facilitate the exchange of information;

7. *Also urges* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to support and allocate appropriate resources for programmes aimed at strengthening preventive action, in particular information for relevant target groups, education and campaigns to increase public awareness of this issue at the national and grass-roots levels, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations;

8. *Encourages* Member States to adopt appropriate measures to inform women migrant workers of their rights and the benefits to which they are entitled;

9. *Calls upon* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, if they have not done so, to put in place penal and criminal sanctions to punish perpetrators of violence against women migrant workers and, to the extent possible, to provide, and to encourage non-governmental organizations to provide, victims of violence with the full range of immediate assistance and protection, such as counselling, legal and consular assistance, temporary shelter and other measures, that will allow them to be present during the judicial process, as well as to establish reintegration and rehabilitation schemes for returning women migrant workers to their countries of origin;

10. *Encourages* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to support and, if they have not done so, to formulate and implement training programmes for their law enforcers, prosecutors and service providers with a view to instilling among those public sector workers the necessary skills and attitude to ensure the delivery of proper and professional interventions for women migrant workers who are subjected to abuse and violence;

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[116] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[117] E/CN.4/1999/80, sect. VII.

[118] A/54/342.

11. *Also encourages* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to adopt measures or strengthen existing ones to regulate the recruitment and deployment of women migrant workers, including considering the adoption of appropriate legal measures against intermediaries who deliberately encourage the clandestine movement of workers and who exploit women migrant workers;

12. *Invites* Governments to identify the causes of undocumented migration and its economic, social and demographic impact, as well as its implications for the formulation and application of social, economic and migration policies, including those relating to women migrant workers;

13. *Encourages* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin, transit and destination, to avail themselves of the expertise of the United Nations, including the Statistics Division of the Secretariat and other relevant bodies, such as the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, to develop appropriate national data-collection methodologies that will generate comparable data on violence against women migrant workers as bases for research and analyses on the subject;

14. *Encourages* Member States to consider ratifying and complying with International Labour Organization conventions and to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[119] as well as the Slavery Convention of 1926;[120]

15. *Encourages* the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to consider developing a general recommendation on the situation of women migrant workers;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the problem of violence against women migrant workers and on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account updated information from the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, and the International Organization for Migration and other relevant sources, including non-governmental organizations.

RESOLUTION 54/139

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/598 and Corr.1 and 2)

54/139. Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Recalling Articles 1 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as Article 8, which provides that the United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs,

Recalling also the goal, contained in the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[121] of the achievement of overall gender equality, particularly at the Professional level and above, by the year 2000,

Taking into account the continuing lack of representation or under-representation of women from certain countries, in particular developing countries, including least developed countries and small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition,

Recalling its resolutions 53/119 of 9 December 1998 on the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat and 53/221 of 7 April 1999 on human resources management,

Welcoming the progress made in improving the representation of women at the D-1 level, but concerned that the representation of women at the senior and policy-making levels remains significantly below the goal of 50/50 gender distribution at these levels,

Welcoming also the fact that the percentage of women appointed at the D-2 level and promoted to the D-1 level exceeded the goal of 50 per cent,

Concerned that the appointment of women at all other levels, with the exception of the P-2 level, falls significantly below the goal of 50 per cent, and concerned at the incremental pace at which the overall representation of women in the Secretariat has increased,

Concerned also that some existing arrangements with Member States may impede the employment of spouses of United Nations staff members,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General and the framework for action contained therein;[122]

2. *Reaffirms* the urgent goal of achieving 50/50 gender distribution in all categories of posts within the United Nations system, especially at the D-1 level and above, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, and also taking into account the continuing lack of representation or under-representation of women from certain countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

3. *Regrets* that the goal of 50/50 gender distribution will not be met by the year 2000, and urges the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to realize significant progress towards this goal by the end of 2000;

4. *Requests* the General Assembly, at its special session entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", to be held in June

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[119] Resolution 45/158, annex.

[120] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 212, No. 2861.

[121] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[122] A/54/405.

2000, to consider further forward-looking strategies for achieving 50/50 gender distribution in all categories of posts within the United Nations system, especially at the D-1 level and above, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter, and also taking into account the continuing lack of representation or under-representation of women from certain countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

5. *Welcomes* the ongoing personal commitment of the Secretary-General to meeting the goal of gender equality and his assurance that gender balance will be given the highest priority in his continuing efforts to bring about a new management culture in the Organization, including full implementation of the special measures for the achievement of gender equality;[123]

6. *Also welcomes* the continued provision of specific training programmes on gender mainstreaming and gender issues in the workplace, tailored to meet the special needs of individual departments, and commends those heads of departments and offices who have launched gender training for their managers and staff;

7. *Strongly encourages* heads of departments and offices who have not yet organized such training to do so by the end of the next biennium;

8. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to implement fully and to monitor the strategic plan of action for the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat (1995–2000)[124] in order to make notable progress towards the goal of 50/50 gender distribution by the end of the year 2000, especially at the D-1 level and above;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that individual managers are held accountable for implementing the strategic plan within their areas of responsibility;

10. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to appoint more women as special representatives and envoys and to pursue good offices on his behalf, especially in matters related to peacekeeping, peace-building, preventive diplomacy and economic and social development, and in operational activities, including as resident coordinators, as well as to appoint more women to other high-level positions;

11. *Welcomes* the inclusion of the objective of improving gender balance in action plans on human resources management for individual departments and offices, and encourages cooperation between the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat in the further elaboration and monitoring of these plans, which will include concrete strategies and specific targets for improving women's representation in each department and office;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to monitor closely the progress made by departments and offices in meeting the goal of gender balance and to ensure that the appointment and promotion of suitably qualified women will be no less than 50 per cent of all appointments and promotions until the goal of 50/50 gender distribution is met, including through full implementation of the special measures for women and the development of mechanisms to encourage, monitor and assess effectively the performance of programme managers in meeting targets for improving women's representation;

13. *Takes note* of the revised terms of reference of the Steering Committee for the Improvement of the Status of Women in the Secretariat issued by the Secretary-General in June 1999,[125] in particular its role in monitoring the implementation of the special measures for the achievement of gender balance;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop innovative recruitment strategies to identify and attract suitably qualified women candidates, in particular in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in other Member States that are unrepresented or under-represented in the Secretariat and in occupations in which women are under-represented;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue his work to create within existing resources a gender-sensitive work environment supportive of the needs of his staff, both women and men, including through the development of policies for flexible working time, flexible workplace arrangements and child-care and elder-care needs, as well as through the provision of more comprehensive information to prospective candidates and new recruits on spouse-employment opportunities and the expansion of gender-sensitivity training in all departments and offices;

16. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to develop further the policy against harassment, including sexual harassment, and to issue clear, detailed guidelines for its application at Headquarters and in the field;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enable the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women to monitor effectively and facilitate progress in the implementation of the strategic plan and the special measures for women, including by ensuring access to the information required to carry out that work;

18. *Strongly encourages* Member States to support the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to achieve the goal of 50/50 gender distribution, especially at the D-1 level and above, by identifying and regularly submitting more women candidates for appointment to intergovernmental, judicial and expert bodies, identifying and proposing national recruitment sources that will assist the organizations of the United Nations system in identifying suitable women candidates, in particular from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and encouraging more women to apply for positions within the Secretariat, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes and the regional commissions, including in areas in which women are under-represented, such as peacekeeping, peace-building and other non-traditional areas;

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[123] ST/AI/1999/9.

[124] A/49/587 and Corr.1, sect. IV.

[125] ST/SGB/1999/9, sect. 2.

19. *Also strongly encourages* Member States to identify women candidates for assignment to peacekeeping missions and to improve the representation of women in military and civilian police contingents;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-fourth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including by providing statistics on the number and percentage of women in all organizational units and at all levels throughout the United Nations system and on the implementation of departmental action plans for the achievement of gender balance.

RESOLUTION 54/140

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/598 and Corr.1 and 2)

54/140. Revitalization and strengthening of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/54 of 29 July 1999 on the revitalization of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

Reaffirming article I of the statute of the Institute,[126] which sets out its autonomous status,

Reaffirming also that the Institute continues to have a unique role to play, in that it is the only entity in the United Nations system devoted entirely to research, training and information in the context of the advancement of women in development,

Reaffirming further the objectives of the Institute to stimulate and assist, through research, training and the collection and dissemination of information, the advancement of women and their integration in the development process, both as participants and as beneficiaries,

Reiterating paragraph 334 of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women[127] and the relevant provisions contained in agreed conclusions 1997/2 of 18 July 1997 of the Economic and Social Council,[128]

Taking note of the recommendations contained in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit,[129] which conducted an evaluation of the Institute,

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Institute,[130]

Taking note further of the report of the Secretary-General on the new structure and working method of the Institute,[131]

1. *Takes note* of Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/54, and endorses the decision of Member States to engage in the revitalization of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the proposal for a new working method of the Institute through the establishment of an electronic Gender Awareness Information and Networking System, the principal activities of which are disseminating information from all countries, conducting research, capacity-building and networking, taking into account the special needs of developing countries;

3. *Urges* that the traditional methods of disseminating information also be improved and strengthened;

4. *Expresses its satisfaction* with the establishment of a new staffing structure for the Institute, consisting of a small number of persons, and urges that the approved posts be filled as soon as possible;

5. *Notes* the project-centred approach and the fact that the Gender Awareness Information and Networking System and special research and training projects will be financed and managed separately;

6. *Acknowledges* the efforts of the Institute in producing outputs during the biennium 1998–1999, notwithstanding its current financial and institutional constraints;

7. *Welcomes* the recent appointment of the Director of the Institute, and urges the Secretary-General to ensure the stability and continuity of the post of Director;

8. *Requests* the Director of the Institute to ensure the preparation of a feasibility study of the Gender Awareness Information and Networking System, including the work plan and budget for the biennium 2000–2001, by an independent body funded by voluntary contributions, on the basis of the new structure and working method of the Institute, for approval by the Board of Trustees as established in article III, paragraph 2, of the statute of the Institute;[126]

9. *Recommends* that the feasibility study provide, *inter alia*, information on how the new working method and work plan will benefit the advancement of women, in particular women from developing countries;

10. *Urges* that the use of all six official languages of the United Nations on the web site of the Institute be ensured as soon as possible, and in this context requests that the feasibility study, *inter alia*, examine the technical use of these languages

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[126] A/39/511, annex.

[127] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[128] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* and addendum (A/52/3/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1), chap. IV, sect. A, para. 4.

[129] See A/54/156–E/1999/102.

[130] A/54/352.

[131] A/54/500.

on the web site of the Institute, and also requests the Secretary-General to report on the developments in this regard to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to fulfil the commitment made to take the necessary measures to correct the administrative anomalies noted in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit,[129] and urges that those measures be effected as soon as possible, given the critical financial situation of the Institute;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide support to the Institute, in particular in setting up the new structure and working method for the Institute, by encouraging voluntary contributions to the Institute and its special projects;

13. *Urges* Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute or to consider increasing their contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women in order to facilitate the immediate implementation of the programmes and activities of the Institute;

14. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments and organizations that continue to contribute to and support the activities of the Institute;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/141

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/599 and Corr.1)

54/141. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/100 of 12 December 1997, 52/231 of 4 June 1998 and 53/120 of 9 December 1998, in which it decided to convene a high-level plenary review as a special session of the General Assembly, which will take place from 5 to 9 June 2000, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",

Recalling also its resolutions 52/93 and 52/97 of 12 December 1997, 53/116, 53/117 and 53/118 of 9 December 1998, and bearing in mind its resolution 54/4 of 6 October 1999,

Stressing the importance of the special session and the need for strong, sustained political will and commitment at the national, regional and international levels towards achieving equality between women and men, and, in this regard, reaffirming that the full implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women[132] requires further action by all,

Reaffirming its decision that the special session will be undertaken on the basis of and with full respect for the Platform for Action and that there will be no renegotiation of the existing agreements contained therein,

Deeply convinced that the Beijing Declaration[133] and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women are important contributions to the advancement of women worldwide in the achievement of gender equality and must be translated into effective action by all States, the United Nations system and other organizations concerned, as well as by non-governmental organizations,

Recognizing that the responsibility for the implementation of the Platform for Action rests primarily at the national level and that strengthened efforts are necessary in this respect, and reiterating that enhanced international cooperation is essential for the effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action;[134]

2. *Commends* the work of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century";

3. *Takes note* of the ministerial communiqué adopted by the Economic and Social Council at the high-level segment of its substantive session of 1999 on the theme "The role of employment and work in poverty eradication: the empowerment and advancement of women",[135] as well as Council resolution 1999/55 of 30 July 1999 on integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits;

4. *Welcomes* the initiatives and actions taken by Governments, the United Nations system and other international organizations as well as by non-governmental organizations and other actors of civil society towards the accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration[133] and the Platform for Action,[132] and calls upon them to implement effectively all the critical areas of concern of the Platform for Action by promoting the empowerment of women at all levels and their full participation in all spheres of society through, *inter alia*, an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective at all levels;

5. *Also welcomes* the replies from Governments to the questionnaire on the implementation of the Platform for Action,[136] and once again invites Governments that have not yet done so to submit national evaluations of the

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[132] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[133] Ibid., annex I.

[134] A/54/264.

[135] A/54/3, chap. III, para. 23. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1).

[136] See A/54/264, para. 49.

implementation of the Platform for Action, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/50 of 29 July 1999;

6. *Recognizes* the importance attached to the regional and subregional monitoring of the global and regional platforms for action by regional commissions and other subregional or regional structures, within their mandates, in consultation with Governments, and calls for the promotion of cooperation in that respect among Governments and, where appropriate, national machineries of the same region;

7. *Reaffirms* that, in order to implement the Platform for Action, adequate mobilization of resources at the national and international levels, as well as new and additional resources for the developing countries, in particular those in Africa and the least developed countries, from all available funding mechanisms, including multilateral, bilateral and private sources, will also be required;

8. *Recognizes* that implementation of the Platform for Action in the countries with economies in transition requires continued national efforts and international cooperation and assistance, as indicated in the Platform for Action;

9. *Reaffirms* that, in order to implement the Platform for Action, a reformulation of policies and reallocation of resources may be needed, but that some policy changes may not necessarily have financial implications;

10. *Calls upon* Member States to allocate adequate resources for the provision of data disaggregated by sex and age for undertaking gender impact analysis and measuring progress in order to develop successful national implementation strategies for the Platform for Action;

11. *Encourages* all entities of the United Nations system, including the programmes, funds and specialized agencies, and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, to continue their active involvement in the preparations for the special session and to participate at the highest level in the special session, including through presentations on best practices, obstacles encountered and a vision for the future to accelerate implementation of the Platform for Action and address new and emerging trends;

12. *Welcomes* the initiatives and activities of all regional commissions and other intergovernmental organizations in support of the preparations for the special session;

13. *Reiterates* that participation in the special session should be at a high political level;

14. *Invites* Member States to include representatives of national machineries for the advancement of women in their delegations to the preparatory committee and the special session;

15. *Reiterates* the decision that non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, as well as the non-governmental organizations that were accredited to the Fourth World Conference on Women, may participate in the special session without creating a precedent for future sessions of the General Assembly;[137]

16. *Encourages* Member States to include relevant actors of civil society, especially non-governmental organizations and representatives of women's organizations, in their national preparatory processes as well as in their delegations to the preparatory committee and the special session;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the special session;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session an item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the special session of the General Assembly entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century'".

RESOLUTION 54/142

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/599 and Corr.1)

54/142. Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/100 of 12 December 1997, 52/231 of 4 June 1998 and 53/120 of 9 December 1998 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/6 of 22 July 1996, and bearing in mind Council resolution 1999/50 of 29 July 1999,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the initiation of the comprehensive review and appraisal of the implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women,[138] and on the framework for further actions and initiatives that might be considered during the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[139]

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on progress in the implementation of the Platform for Action by the States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[140]

1. *Reiterates its invitation* to Governments that have not yet done so to prepare national action plans and reports on the implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth

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[137] See resolution 52/100, para. 46.

[138] E/CN.6/1999/PC/3.

[139] E/CN.6/1999/PC/2.

[140] E/CN.6/1999/PC/4, annex.

World Conference on Women,[141] and underlines the importance of involving relevant actors of civil society, especially non-governmental organizations;

2. *Invites* Member States, in preparing implementation plans and reports and responding to the questionnaire on the implementation of the Platform for Action,[142] to report on good practices, positive actions, lessons learned, the use of qualitative and quantitative indicators for measuring progress and, wherever possible, on key challenges remaining in the critical areas of concern of the Platform for Action and obstacles encountered;

3. *Encourages* all the regional commissions and other intergovernmental regional organizations to carry out activities in support of the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", *inter alia*, by holding preparatory meetings to ensure a regional perspective on implementation and on further actions and initiatives, as well as on a vision for gender equality, development and peace in the twenty-first century, and to make their reports available in 2000 to the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the preparatory committee for the special session;

4. *Encourages* all entities of the United Nations system, including the programmes, funds and specialized agencies, and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, to be involved actively in preparatory activities and to participate at the highest level in the special session, including through presentations on best practices, obstacles encountered and a vision for the future to accelerate implementation of the Platform for Action and to address new and emerging trends;

5. *Decides* that the special session shall have a plenary and an ad hoc committee of the whole;

6. *Reaffirms* that the special session will be undertaken on the basis of and with full respect for the Platform for Action and that there will be no renegotiation of the existing agreements contained therein;

7. *Decides* that the provisional agenda shall include the following items:

(*a*) Review and appraisal of progress made in implementation in the twelve critical areas of concern of the Platform for Action;

(*b*) Further actions and initiatives for overcoming obstacles to the implementation of the Platform for Action;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, in time for the next session of the preparatory committee in 2000, comprehensive reports on progress made in the implementation of the Platform for Action nationally, regionally and internationally, taking into account all relevant information and inputs available to the United Nations system on the following:

(*a*) A review and appraisal of the implementation of the Platform for Action based on, *inter alia*, national action plans, reports submitted to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women by the States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[143] replies of Member States to the questionnaire on the implementation of the Platform for Action, statements made by delegations at relevant forums of the United Nations, reports of regional commissions and other entities of the United Nations system and follow-up to recent global United Nations conferences;

(*b*) Good practices, positive actions, lessons learned, examples of the use of any qualitative and quantitative indicators for measuring progress, successful strategies and promising initiatives for the implementation of the Platform for Action;

(*c*) Obstacles encountered and strategies for overcoming them;

(*d*) Further actions and initiatives, within the overall goals of gender equality, development and peace, to accelerate progress in implementation in the twelve critical areas of concern of the Platform for Action beyond 2000, recognizing the need for analytical tools and strategies for implementation, taking into account inputs, as well as comments of Member States on the report of the Secretary-General on the framework for further actions and initiatives,[illegible] and, in this regard, invites Member States to provide inputs and comments thereon;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make available all necessary documentation in a timely manner for the special session, keeping in mind resolutions 52/231 and 53/120;

10. *Encourages* the United Nations system to continue to hold discussions with relevant actors of civil society, especially non-governmental organizations, in the exchange of views for the review and appraisal process on the implementation of the Platform for Action, including, wherever available, the use of electronic networking;

11. *Urges* Member States and observers to ensure their representation at the special session at a high political level;

12. *Confirms* that the special session will be open to the participation of all States Members of the United Nations, members of the specialized agencies and observers, in accordance with the established practice of the General Assembly;[144]

13. *Calls* for the participation of associate members of the regional commissions in the special session, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and in the preparatory process for the special session, in the same capacity of observer that applied to their participation in the Fourth World Conference on Women.

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[141] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[142] See A/54/264, para. 49.

[143] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[144] See resolution 52/100, para. 46.

14. *Encourages* Member States to include relevant actors of civil society, especially non-governmental organizations and representatives of women's organizations, in their national preparatory processes as well as in their delegations to the preparatory committee and the special session;

15. *Emphasizes* the important role of non-governmental organizations in implementing the Platform for Action and the need for their active involvement in the preparations for the special session as well as the need to ensure appropriate arrangements for their contributions to the special session;

16. *Decides* that non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, as well as the non-governmental organizations that were accredited to the Fourth World Conference on Women, may participate in the special session without creating a precedent for future sessions of the General Assembly;[144]

17. *Also decides* to defer consideration of all the modalities for participation of non-governmental organizations in the special session until the next session of the preparatory committee;

18. *Invites* the Bureau of the Commission on the Status of Women, acting as the preparatory committee for the special session, to convene informal open-ended consultations, as appropriate, to consider preparations for the special session;

19. *Recommends* that the major portion of the three weeks scheduled for the forty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women in March 2000 be allocated to the Commission acting as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly.

RESOLUTION 54/143

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/600)

54/143. Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council decisions 1999/207 of 2 February 1999 and 1999/282 of 30 July 1999 concerning the enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Taking note also of the requests regarding the enlargement of the Executive Committee contained in the note verbale dated 13 August 1998 from the Permanent Mission of Côte d'Ivoire to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[145] the note verbale dated 26 May 1999 from the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General[146] and the note verbale dated 20 July 1999 from the Permanent Mission of Chile to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[147]

1. *Decides* to increase the number of members of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from fifty-four to fifty-seven States;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to elect the additional members at its organizational session for 2000.

RESOLUTION 54/144

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/600)

54/144. Follow-up to the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/113 of 20 December 1993, 49/173 of 23 December 1994, 50/151 of 21 December 1995, 51/70 of 12 December 1996, 52/102 of 12 December 1997 and, in particular, 53/123 of 9 December 1998,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General[148] and of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,[149]

Recognizing the ongoing acuteness of the migration and displacement problems in the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the necessity to follow up the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States and the subsequent conclusions of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,[150]

Reaffirming the view of the Conference that the primary responsibility for tackling population displacement problems lies with the affected countries themselves and that these issues are to be regarded as national priorities, while at the same time recognizing the need for enhancing international support for the national efforts of the countries of the Commonwealth of

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[145] E/1998/97.

[146] E/1999/76.

[147] E/1999/112.

[148] A/54/286.

[149] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/54/12).

[150] Ibid., *Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 12A* and corrigendum (A/51/12/Add.1 and Corr.1), sect. III.B; ibid., *Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 12A* (A/52/12/Add.1), sect. III.B; ibid., *Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 12A* (A/53/12/Add.1), sect. III.C; and ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 12A* (A/54/12/Add.1), chap. III, sect. B.

Independent States aimed at the effective implementation of such responsibilities within the framework of the Programme of Action adopted by the Conference,[151]

Noting with satisfaction the efforts of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Organization for Migration and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in developing strategies and practical tools for more effective capacity-building in countries of origin and enhancing programmes to address the needs of various categories of concern to the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States,

Welcoming the contributions of those countries that responded to the 1999 appeal launched by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner fo. Refugees and the International Organization for Migration, and appreciating this tangible encouragement to the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and to further inter-agency cooperation,

Taking note of the positive results emanating from the implementation of the Programme of Action adopted by the Conference,

Bearing in mind that a number of the provisions of the Programme of Action are still at the stage of practical formulation and cannot be achieved by 2000,

Taking into account the decision made by the steering group of the Conference to establish a working group to address the issue of follow-up to the Conference,

Convinced of the necessity of continuing to maintain the regional approach for the achievement of effective implementation of the Programme of Action,

Recalling that the protection and promotion of human rights and the strengthening of democratic institutions are essential to prevent mass population displacement,

Mindful that the effective implementation of the recommendations contained in the Programme of Action should be facilitated and can be ensured only through cooperation and coordinated activities undertaken in this respect by all interested States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other actors,

Noting and reaffirming the importance of the 1951 Convention[152] and the 1967 Protocol[153] relating to the Status of Refugees,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General[148] and of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;[149]

2. *Calls upon* the Governments of the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Organization for Migration and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, to strengthen their efforts and mutual cooperation relating to the follow-up to the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States, and welcomes the positive results achieved by them in the implementation of the Programme of Action adopted by the Conference;[151]

3. *Endorses* the broad consensus reached by the participants in the steering group of the Conference that implementation of the issues outlined in the Programme of Action should be continued and that consideration should be given to a continuation of the follow-up to the Conference after 2000;

4. *Calls upon* the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and other interested States, in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Organization for Migration and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, to elaborate concrete proposals for a mechanism for possible follow-up to the Conference after 2000;

5. *Invites* all States that have not yet done so to accede to and implement fully the 1951 Convention[152] and the 1967 Protocol[153] relating to the Status of Refugees, while welcoming the accession of Georgia and Kazakhstan to the Convention;

6. *Calls upon* States and interested international organizations, in a spirit of solidarity and burden-sharing, to provide appropriate forms and levels of support for the practical implementation of the Programme of Action;

7. *Invites* international financial and other institutions to contribute to the financing of projects and programmes within the framework of the implementation of the Programme of Action;

8. *Invites* the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States to intensify bilateral, subregional and regional cooperation in maintaining the balance of commitments and interests in the process leading up to the implementation of the Programme of Action;

9. *Calls upon* the Governments of the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States to continue to strengthen their commitment to the principles underpinning the Programme of Action, in particular principles of human rights and refugee protection, and to lend high-level political support to ensure progress in its implementation;

10. *Invites* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration to enhance their mutual relationship with other key international actors, such as the Council of Europe, the European Commission and human rights, development and financial institutions, in order better to address the wide-ranging and complex issues in the Programme of Action;

11. *Welcomes* the progress made in building civil society, in particular through the development of the non-governmental sector and the development of cooperation between non-governmental organizations and the Governments of a number of countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, and notes in this regard the relationship between the progress made in implementing the Programme of

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[151] A/51/341 and Corr.1, appendix.

[152] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[153] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

Action and the success in promoting civil society, especially in the field of human rights;

12. *Encourages* the involvement of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the follow-up to the Conference, and invites them to demonstrate stronger support for the process of multinational constructive dialogue among a wide range of countries concerned and further action with a view to the full implementation of the recommendations of the Conference;

13. *Emphasizes* the necessity of fulfilling the recommendations contained in the Programme of Action relating to ensuring respect for human rights as an important factor in the management of migration flows, the consolidation of democracy, the rule of law and stability;

14. *Recognizes* the importance of taking measures, on the basis of strict adherence to all of the principles of international law, including humanitarian law and international human rights standards, to prevent situations that lead to new flows of refugees, displaced persons and other forms of involuntary displacement;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the progress achieved in the follow-up to the Conference;

16. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its fifty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 54/145

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/600)

54/145. Assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/172 of 23 December 1994, 50/150 of 21 December 1995, 51/73 of 12 December 1996, 52/105 of 12 December 1997 and 53/122 of 9 December 1998,

Aware of the fact that the majority of refugees are children and women,

Bearing in mind that unaccompanied refugee minors are among the most vulnerable refugees and the most at risk of neglect, violence, forced military recruitment, sexual assault and other abuses and therefore require special assistance and care,

Mindful of the fact that the ultimate solution to the plight of unaccompanied refugee minors is their return to and reunification with their families,

Noting the revised Guidelines on Refugee Children issued by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in May 1994 and the development of an emergency kit to facilitate coordination and enhance the quality of responses to the needs of unaccompanied minors by the Office of the High Commissioner, the United Nations Children's Fund and non-governmental organizations,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Children's Fund in the identification and tracing of unaccompanied refugee minors, and welcoming their efforts in reunifying families of refugees,

Welcoming the efforts exerted by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to reunite refugees with their families,

Noting the efforts of the High Commissioner to ensure the protection of and assistance to refugees, including children and unaccompanied minors, and that further enhanced efforts need to be exerted to this effect,

Recalling the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[194] and the 1951 Convention[195] and the 1967 Protocol[196] relating to the Status of Refugees,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[197]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict;[198]

3. *Expresses its deep concern* at the continued plight of unaccompanied refugee minors, and emphasizes once again the urgent need for their early identification and for timely, detailed and accurate information on their number and whereabouts;

4. *Stresses* the importance of providing adequate resources for programmes of identification and tracing of unaccompanied refugee minors;

5. *Calls upon* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in cooperation with other relevant United Nations bodies, to incorporate into its programmes policies that aim at preventing the separation of refugee families, conscious of the importance of family unity;

6. *Calls upon* all Governments, the Secretary-General, the Office of the High Commissioner, all United Nations organizations, other international organizations and non-governmental organizations concerned to exert the maximum effort to assist and protect refugee minors and to expedite the return to and reunification with their families of unaccompanied refugee minors;

7. *Urges* the Office of the High Commissioner, all United Nations organizations, other international organizations and non-governmental organizations concerned to take appropriate steps to mobilize resources commensurate with the needs and interests of unaccompanied refugee minors and for their reunification with their families;

8. *Calls upon* all States and other parties to armed conflict to respect international humanitarian law, and, in this regard, calls upon States parties to respect fully the provisions

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[194] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[195] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[196] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[197] A/54/265.

[198] A/54/430, annex.

of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[279] and related instruments, while bearing in mind resolution 2 adopted at the twenty-sixth International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, held at Geneva in December 1995, and to respect the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[illegible] which accord children affected by armed conflict special protection and treatment;

9. *Condemns* all acts of exploitation of unaccompanied refugee minors, including their use as soldiers or human shields in armed conflict and their forced recruitment into military forces, and any other acts that endanger their safety and personal security;

10. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Children's Fund, other United Nations organizations and other international organizations to mobilize adequate assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors in the areas of relief, education, health and psychological rehabilitation;

11. *Encourages* the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in his efforts to raise awareness worldwide and to mobilize official and public opinion for the protection of children affected by armed conflict, including refugee minors;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution and to give special attention to the girl-child refugee in his report.

RESOLUTION 54/146

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/620)

54/146. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of her Office[280] and the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its fiftieth session[281] and the conclusions contained therein,

Recalling its resolution 53/125 of 9 December 1998,

Commending the High Commissioner and her staff for the competent, courageous and dedicated manner in which they discharge their responsibilities, paying tribute to those staff members whose lives have been endangered in the course of their duties, and *deploring* the injuries and deaths of staff members as a consequence of generalized as well as targeted violence,

Commending States that have successfully implemented durable solutions,

1. *Endorses* the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its fiftieth session[281] and the conclusions contained therein;

2. *Strongly reaffirms* the fundamental importance and the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the function of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees of providing international protection to refugees and seeking permanent solutions to the problem of refugees, and reiterates the need for Governments to continue to facilitate the effective exercise of this function;

3. *Reaffirms* the fundamental importance of the 1951 Convention[282] and the 1967 Protocol[283] relating to the Status of Refugees, in particular their implementation in a manner fully compatible with the object and purpose of those instruments, notes with satisfaction that one hundred and thirty-nine States are now parties to one or to both instruments, and encourages the Office of the High Commissioner and States to strengthen their efforts to promote broader accession to these instruments and their full implementation;

4. *Notes* that the fiftieth anniversary of the Geneva Conventions on the law of armed conflict[284] is being commemorated in 1999, and calls upon States and other parties to armed conflict to observe scrupulously international humanitarian law;

5. *Also notes* that the thirtieth anniversary of the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa[285] is also being commemorated in 1999, and acknowledges the contribution made by that Convention to the development of regional standards for the protection of refugees;

6. *Reaffirms* that, as set out in article 14 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[286] everyone has the right to seek and enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution, and calls upon all States to refrain from taking measures that jeopardize the institution of asylum, in particular by returning or expelling refugees or asylum-seekers contrary to international standards;

7. *Emphasizes* that the protection of refugees is primarily the responsibility of States, whose full and effective cooperation, action and political resolve are required to enable the Office of the High Commissioner to fulfil its mandated functions, and calls upon States, the Office of the High Commissioner and all interested parties to turn concentrated attention towards revitalizing old partnerships and building new ones in support of the international refugee protection system;

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[279] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

[280] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/54/12).

[281] Ibid., *Supplement No. 12A* (A/54/12/Add.1).

[282] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[283] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[284] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

[285] Ibid., vol. 1001, No. 14691.

[286] Resolution 217 A (III).

8. *Stresses* the importance of international solidarity and burden-sharing in reinforcing the international protection of refugees, urges all States and relevant non-governmental and other organizations, in conjunction with the Office of the High Commissioner, to cooperate and to mobilize resources with a view to reducing the burden borne by States, in particular developing countries, that have received large numbers of asylum-seekers and refugees, and calls upon the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to play its catalytic role in mobilizing assistance from the international community to address the economic, environmental and social impact of large-scale refugee populations, especially in developing countries;

9. *Condemns* all acts that pose a threat to the personal security and well-being of refugees and asylum-seekers, such as refoulement, unlawful expulsion and physical attacks, and calls upon all States of refuge, in cooperation with international organizations where appropriate, to take all necessary measures to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection, including the humane treatment of asylum-seekers;

10. *Urges* States to uphold the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements, *inter alia*, through effective measures to prevent the infiltration of armed elements, to identify and separate any such armed elements from refugee populations, to settle refugees in secure locations and to afford the Office of the High Commissioner and other appropriate humanitarian organizations prompt, unhindered and safe access to asylum-seekers, refugees and other persons of concern;

11. *Welcomes* the coming into force of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel[107] as well as the consideration of initiatives to widen its *ratione personae*, and calls upon States and all concerned parties to take all possible measures to safeguard the physical security and property of the staff of the Office of the High Commissioner and other humanitarian personnel, to investigate fully any crime committed against them and to bring to justice persons responsible for such crimes;

12. *Urges* all States and relevant organizations to support the High Commissioner's search for durable solutions to refugee problems, including voluntary repatriation, local integration and resettlement in a third country, as appropriate, reaffirms that voluntary repatriation is the preferred solution to refugee problems, and calls upon countries of origin, countries of asylum, the Office of the High Commissioner and the international community to act in a spirit of partnership to enable refugees to exercise their right to return home in safety and with dignity;

13. *Calls upon* all States to promote conditions conducive to the voluntary repatriation of refugees in safety and with dignity, including conditions furthering reconciliation and long-term development in countries of return, and to support the sustainable reintegration of returnees by providing countries of origin with necessary rehabilitation and development assistance in conjunction, as appropriate, with the Office of the High Commissioner and relevant development agencies, and urges the Office of the High Commissioner to strengthen its cooperation and coordination with relevant entities, including international financial institutions and non-governmental organizations;

14. *Reiterates* the right of all persons to return to their country of origin, emphasizes in this regard the obligation of all States to accept the return of their nationals, calls upon all States to facilitate the return of their nationals who have sought asylum and have been determined not to be in need of international protection, and affirms the need for the return of persons to be undertaken in a humane manner and with full respect for their human rights and dignity, irrespective of the status of the persons concerned;

15. *Acknowledges* the desirability of comprehensive approaches by the international community, including comprehensive regional approaches, to the problems of refugees and displaced persons, and notes in this regard that capacity-building in countries of origin and countries of asylum can play an important role in addressing the root causes of refugee flows, in strengthening emergency preparedness and response and in providing effective protection and achieving durable solutions;

16. *Urges* States, in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant organizations, to explore and support fully capacity-building initiatives as part of a comprehensive approach to addressing refugee issues and to take necessary measures to promote sustainable development and to ensure the success of capacity-building activities, and reiterates that such initiatives may include those which strengthen legal and judicial institutions and civil society, those which promote the observance of human rights, the rule of law and accountability and those which enhance the capacity of States to fulfil their responsibilities with respect to persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner;

17. *Reiterates its support* for the role of the Office of the High Commissioner in providing humanitarian assistance and protection to internally displaced persons on the basis of criteria enumerated in paragraph 16 of its resolution 53/125, and underlines the continuing relevance of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement;[108]

18. *Calls upon* States to adopt an approach that is sensitive to gender-related concerns and to ensure that women whose claims to refugee status are based upon a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons enumerated in the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol, including persecution through sexual violence or other gender-related persecution, are recognized as refugees, and encourages the Office of the High Commissioner to continue and to strengthen its efforts for the protection of refugee women;

19. *Urges* States and relevant parties to respect and observe principles of international human rights, humanitarian and refugee law that are of particular relevance to safeguarding the rights of child and adolescent refugees, notes the particular vulnerability of refugee children to being forcibly exposed to the risks of injury, exploitation and death, in particular in the context of armed conflict, and to abduction with a view to their

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[107] Resolution 49/59, annex.

[108] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

forced participation in military activities, and urges all States and concerned parties to take all possible measures to protect child and adolescent refugees, including, in particular, from all forms of violence, exploitation and abuse and forced military service, and to prevent their separation from their families;

20. *Recognizes* the special role of elderly refugees within the refugee family, and, bearing in mind that 1999 has been declared the International Year of Older Persons, calls upon States and the Office of the High Commissioner to make renewed efforts to ensure that the rights, needs and dignity of elderly refugees are fully respected and addressed through appropriate programme activities;

21. *Recalls* that the family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and that it is entitled to protection by society and the State, and calls upon States, working in close collaboration with the Office of the High Commissioner and other concerned organizations, to take measures to ensure that the refugee's family is protected, including through measures aimed at reuniting family members separated as a result of refugee flight;

22. *Notes* that forty-eight States are now parties to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons[169] and that twenty States are parties to the 1961 Convention on the reduction of statelessness,[170] recalls paragraphs 14 to 16 of its resolution 50/152 of 21 December 1995, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue her activities on behalf of stateless persons;

23. *Calls upon* Governments and other donors to demonstrate their international solidarity and burden-sharing with countries of asylum, in particular developing countries, countries with economies in transition and countries with limited resources that, owing to their location, host large numbers of refugees and asylum-seekers, stresses the need for the Office of the High Commissioner to be given adequate resources to fulfil its mandated functions, and in this regard calls upon Governments to contribute generously to the unified annual programme budget of the Office of the High Commissioner, to support efforts to widen the donor base so as to achieve greater burden-sharing among donors and to assist the High Commissioner in securing additional and timely income from traditional governmental sources, other Governments and the private sector to ensure that the needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner are fully met.

RESOLUTION 54/147

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/600)

54/147. Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/126 of 9 December 1998,

Recalling also the provisions of its resolution 2312 (XXII) of 14 December 1967, by which it adopted the Declaration on Territorial Asylum,

Recalling further the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969[171] and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,[172]

Recalling the Khartoum Declaration[173] and the Recommendations on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa[174] adopted by the Organization of African Unity at the ministerial meeting held at Khartoum on 13 and 14 December 1998,

Welcoming decision CM/Dec.459 (LXX) on the situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its seventieth ordinary session, held at Algiers from 8 to 10 July 1999,[175]

Commending the First Ministerial Conference on Human Rights in Africa of the Organization of African Unity, held at Grand-Baie, Mauritius, from 12 to 16 April 1999, and welcoming the attention paid to issues relevant to refugees and displaced persons in the Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the Conference,

Recognizing the contributions made by African States to the development of regional standards for the protection of refugees and returnees, and noting with appreciation that countries of asylum are hosting refugees in a humanitarian spirit and in a spirit of African solidarity and brotherhood,

Recognizing also the need for States to address resolutely the root causes of forced displacement and to create conditions that facilitate durable solutions for refugees and displaced persons, and stressing in this regard the need for States to foster peace, stability and prosperity throughout the African continent,

Convinced of the need to strengthen the capacity of States to provide assistance and protection for refugees, returnees and displaced persons and of the need for the international community, within the context of burden-sharing, to increase its material, financial and technical assistance to the countries affected by refugees, returnees and displaced persons,

Acknowledging with appreciation that some assistance is already rendered by the international community to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and host countries in Africa,

Noting with great concern that, despite all the efforts deployed so far by the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity and others, the situation of refugees and displaced persons in Africa, especially in the West African and Great Lakes regions and in the Horn of Africa, remains precarious,

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[169] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 360, No. 5158.

[170] Ibid., vol. 989, No. 14458.

[171] Ibid., vol. 1001, No. 14691.

[172] Ibid., vol. 1520, No. 26363.

[173] A/54/682, annex I.

[174] Ibid., annex II.

[175] See A/54/424, annex I.

Stressing that the provision of relief and assistance to African refugees by the international community should be on an equitable, non-discriminatory basis,

Considering that, among refugees, returnees and internally displaced persons, women and children are the majority of the population affected by conflict and bear the brunt of atrocities and other consequences of conflict,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General[176] and of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;[177]

2. *Notes with concern* that the declining socio-economic situation, compounded by political instability, internal strife, human rights violations and natural disasters, has led to increased numbers of refugees and displaced persons in some countries of Africa, and remains particularly concerned about the impact of large-scale refugee populations on the security, socio-economic situation and environment of countries of asylum;

3. *Notes* the commemoration in 1999 of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969,[171] appeals to African States that have not yet done so to accede to the Convention, and calls upon States parties to the Convention to reaffirm their commitment to its ideals and to respect and observe its provisions;

4. *Also notes* the commemoration in 1999 of the fiftieth anniversary of the signature of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[178] and, bearing in mind that armed conflict is one of the principal causes of forced displacement in Africa, calls upon States and other parties to armed conflict to observe scrupulously the letter and spirit of international humanitarian law;

5. *Notes* the need for States to address the root causes of forced displacement in Africa, and calls upon African States, the international community and relevant United Nations organizations to take concrete action to meet the needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons for protection and assistance and to contribute generously to national projects and programmes aimed at alleviating their plight;

6. *Also notes* the link, *inter alia*, between human rights violations, poverty, natural disasters and environmental degradation and population displacement, and calls for redoubled and concerted efforts by States, in collaboration with the Organization of African Unity, to promote and protect human rights for all and to address these problems;

7. *Encourages* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to cooperate with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, within their respective mandates, in the promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the positive outcome of all mediation and conflict resolution efforts carried out by African States, the Organization of African Unity and subregional organizations, as well as the establishment of regional mechanisms for conflict prevention and resolution, and urges all relevant parties to address the humanitarian consequences of conflicts;

9. *Expresses its appreciation and strong support* for those African Governments and local populations that, in spite of the general deterioration of socio-economic and environmental conditions and overstretched national resources, continue to accept the additional burden imposed upon them by increasing numbers of refugees and displaced persons, in compliance with the relevant principles of asylum;

10. *Expresses its gratitude* to the international community and to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the humanitarian assistance they have continued to render to refugees and displaced persons and to countries of asylum;

11. *Expresses its concern* about instances in which the fundamental principle of asylum is jeopardized by unlawful expulsion or refoulement or by threats to the life, physical security, integrity, dignity and well-being of refugees;

12. *Calls upon* States, in cooperation with international organizations, within their mandates, to take all necessary measures to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection and, in particular, to ensure that the civilian and humanitarian nature of refugee camps is not compromised by the presence or the activities of armed elements;

13. *Urges* States and all other actors to take all necessary measures to protect activities related to humanitarian assistance, to prevent attacks on and kidnapping of national and international humanitarian workers and to ensure their safety and security, and requests organizations and aid workers to abide by the national laws and regulations of the countries in which they operate;

14. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the Organization of African Unity, subregional organizations and all African States, in conjunction with United Nations agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the international community, to strengthen and revitalize existing partnerships and forge new ones in support of the international refugee protection system;

15. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the international community and other concerned entities to intensify their support to African Governments through appropriate capacity-building activities, including training of relevant officers, disseminating information about refugee instruments and principles, providing financial, technical and advisory services to accelerate the enactment or amendment and implementation of legislation relating to refugees, strengthening emergency response and enhancing capacities for the coordination of humanitarian activities;

16. *Reaffirms* the right of return and also the principle of voluntary repatriation, appeals to countries of origin and

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[176] A/54/414.

[177] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/54/12).

[178] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

countries of asylum to create conditions that are conducive to voluntary repatriation, and recognizes that, while voluntary repatriation remains the pre-eminent solution, local integration and third-country resettlement, as appropriate, are also viable options for dealing with the situation of African refugees who, owing to prevailing circumstances in their respective countries of origin, are unable to return home;

17. *Notes with satisfaction* the voluntary return of millions of refugees to their homelands following the successful repatriation and reintegration operations carried out by the Office of the High Commissioner, with the cooperation and collaboration of countries hosting refugees and countries of origin, and looks forward to other programmes to assist the voluntary repatriation and reintegration of all refugees in Africa;

18. *Reiterates* that the Plan of Action adopted by the Regional Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region, held at Bujumbura from 15 to 17 February 1995, as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/149 of 21 December 1995, continues to be a viable framework for the resolution of the refugee and humanitarian problems in that region;

19. *Appeals* to the international community to respond positively, in the spirit of solidarity and burden-sharing, to the third-country resettlement requests of African refugees, and notes with appreciation that some African countries have offered resettlement places for refugees;

20. *Welcomes* the programmes carried out by the Office of the High Commissioner with host Governments, the United Nations, non-governmental organizations and the international community to address the environmental impact of refugee populations;

21. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide material and financial assistance for the implementation of programmes intended for the rehabilitation of the environment and infrastructure affected by refugees in countries of asylum;

22. *Expresses its concern* about the long stay of refugees in certain African countries, and calls upon the Office of the High Commissioner to keep its programmes under review, in conformity with its mandate in the host countries, taking into account the increasing needs of refugees;

23. *Emphasizes* the need for the Office of the High Commissioner to collate statistics, on a regular basis, on the number of refugees living outside refugee camps in certain African countries, with a view to evaluating and addressing the needs of those refugees;

24. *Urges* the international community, in a spirit of international solidarity and burden-sharing, to continue to fund generously the refugee programmes of the Office of the High Commissioner and, taking into account the substantially increased needs of programmes in Africa, to ensure that Africa receives a fair and equitable share of the resources designated for refugees;

25. *Requests* all Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to pay particular attention to meeting the special needs of refugee women and children and displaced persons, including those with special protection needs;

26. *Calls upon* States and the Office of the High Commissioner to make renewed efforts to ensure that the rights, needs and dignity of elderly refugees are fully respected and addressed through appropriate programme activities;

27. *Expresses grave concern* about the plight of internally displaced persons in Africa, calls upon States to take concrete action to pre-empt internal displacement and to meet the protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons, takes note in this regard of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,[179] and urges the international community, led by relevant United Nations organizations, to contribute generously to national projects and programmes aimed at alleviating the plight of internally displaced persons;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, taking fully into account the efforts expended by countries of asylum, under the item entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions", and to present an oral report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2000.

RESOLUTION 54/148

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/601)

54/148. The girl child

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/127 of 9 December 1998 and all previous relevant resolutions, including the agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women, in particular those relevant to the girl child,

Recalling also all relevant United Nations conferences and the Declaration and Agenda for Action of the World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, held at Stockholm from 27 to 31 August 1996,[180] as well as the recent five-year review of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[181]

Deeply concerned about discrimination against the girl child and the violation of the rights of the girl child, which often result in less access for girls to education, nutrition, physical and mental health care and in girls enjoying fewer of the rights, opportunities and benefits of childhood and adolescence than boys and often being subjected to various forms of cultural, social, sexual and economic exploitation and to violence and harmful practices such as female infanticide, incest, early marriage, prenatal sex selection and female genital mutilation,

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[179] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

[180] A/51/385, annex.

[181] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

Recognizing the need to achieve gender equality so as to ensure a just and equitable world for girls,

Deeply concerned that, in situations of poverty, war and armed conflict, girl children are among the victims most affected and that thus their potential for full development is limited,

Concerned that the girl child has furthermore become a victim of sexually transmitted diseases and the human immunodeficiency virus, which affects the quality of her life and leaves her open to further discrimination,

Noting that 1999 is the tenth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[182] and the twentieth anniversary of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[183]

Reaffirming the equal rights of women and men as enshrined, *inter alia*, in the Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,

1. *Stresses* the need for full and urgent implementation of the rights of the girl child as guaranteed to her under all human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child[182] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[183] as well as the need for universal ratification of those instruments;

2. *Urges* all States to take all necessary measures and to institute legal reforms to ensure the full and equal enjoyment by the girl child of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, to take effective action against violations of those rights and freedoms and to base programmes and policies for the girl child on the rights of the child;

3. *Urges* States to enact and to enforce strictly laws to ensure that marriage is entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses, to enact and to enforce strictly laws concerning the minimum legal age of consent and the minimum age for marriage and to raise the minimum age for marriage where necessary;

4. *Urges* all States to fulfil their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women as well as the commitment to implement the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women;[184]

5. *Also urges* all States to enact and to enforce legislation to protect girls from all forms of violence, including female infanticide and prenatal sex selection, female genital mutilation, rape, domestic violence, incest, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, child prostitution and child pornography, and to develop age-appropriate safe and confidential programmes and medical, social and psychological support services to assist girls who are subjected to violence;

6. *Calls upon* all States and international and non-governmental organizations, individually and collectively, to implement further the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women, in particular the strategic objectives relating to the girl child;

7. *Urges* States to take special measures for the protection of children, in particular to protect girls from rape and other forms of sexual abuse and gender-based violence in situations of armed conflict, paying special attention to refugee and displaced girls and taking into account the special needs of the girl child in the delivery of humanitarian assistance;

8. *Also urges* States to formulate comprehensive, multidisciplinary and coordinated national plans, programmes or strategies to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, which should be widely disseminated and should provide targets and timetables for implementation, as well as effective domestic enforcement procedures through the establishment of monitoring mechanisms involving all parties concerned, including consultations with women's organizations, giving attention to the recommendations relating to the girl child of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences;

9. *Calls upon* Governments, civil society, including the media, and non-governmental organizations to promote human rights education and the full respect for and enjoyment of the human rights of the girl child, *inter alia*, through the translation, production and dissemination of age-appropriate information materials on those rights to all sectors of society, in particular to children;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, to ensure that all organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, individually and collectively, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the World Health Organization and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, take into account the rights and the particular needs of the girl child in the country programme of cooperation in accordance with the national priorities, including through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;[185]

11. *Requests* all human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and other human rights mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and its Subcommission on the

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[182] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[183] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[184] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[185] See A/53/226, paras. 72–77, and A/53/226/Add.1, paras. 88–98.

Promotion and Protection of Human Rights[186] to adopt regularly and systematically a gender perspective in the implementation of their mandates and to include in their reports information on the qualitative analysis of violations of the human rights of women and girls, and encourages the strengthening of cooperation and coordination in that regard;

12. *Calls upon* States and international and non-governmental organizations to mobilize all necessary resources, support and efforts to realize the goals, strategic objectives and actions set out in the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women;

13. *Stresses* the importance of a substantive assessment of the implementation of the Platform for Action with a life-cycle perspective so as to identify gaps and obstacles in the implementation process and to develop further actions for the achievement of the goals of the Platform for Action;

14. *Calls upon* Governments, the United Nations system, in particular the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat, non-governmental organizations and women's organizations to ensure that, in the preparation for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", the needs and the rights of the girl child are duly taken into account and integrated into all activities;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the needs and the rights of the girl child are specifically assessed in the five-year review of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[187] to be held in June 2000;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Bank, to ensure that the needs and the rights of the girl child are given special attention in all preparatory processes at the national, regional and international levels, including the Education for All 2000 Assessment[188] and the agenda of the World Education Forum, to be held in April 2000;

17. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the needs and the rights of the girl child are integrated into the preparatory work for the special session of the General Assembly on the follow-up to the World Summit for Children in 2001, *inter alia*, by providing the General Assembly with a comprehensive report drawing on the experiences and outcomes of the five-year reviews of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the World Summit for Social Development, and the World Education Forum.

RESOLUTION 54/149

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/601)

54/149. The rights of the child

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/127 and 53/128 of 9 December 1998, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/80 of 28 April 1999,[189]

Bearing in mind the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[190] emphasizing that the provisions of the Convention and other relevant human rights instruments must constitute the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, and reaffirming that the best interest of the child shall be the primary consideration in all actions concerning children,

Reaffirming the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s adopted by the World Summit for Children, held in New York on 29 and 30 September 1990,[191] notably the solemn commitment to give high priority to the rights of children, to their survival and to their protection and development, and reaffirming also the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993,[192] which, *inter alia*, states that national and international mechanisms and programmes for the defence and protection of children, in particular those in especially difficult circumstances, should be strengthened, including through effective measures to combat exploitation and abuse of children, such as female infanticide, harmful child labour, sale of children and organs, child prostitution and child pornography, and which reaffirms that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are universal,

Profoundly concerned that the situation of girls and boys in many parts of the world remains critical as a result of poverty, inadequate social and economic conditions in an increasingly globalized world economy, pandemics, natural disasters, armed conflict, displacement, exploitation, illiteracy, hunger, intolerance, discrimination and inadequate legal protection, and convinced that urgent and effective national and international action is called for,

Underlining the need for mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policies and programmes relating to children,

Recognizing the need for the realization of a standard of living adequate for the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development, as well as the provision of universal and equal access to primary education,

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[186] The Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities was renamed the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 1999/256 of 27 July 1999.

[187] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[188] See A/54/128-E/1999/70.

[189] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[190] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[191] A/45/625, annex.

[192] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

Recognizing also that partnership between Governments, international organizations and all sectors of civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations, is important to realizing the rights of the child,

Emphasizing the importance of the tenth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child for mobilizing and taking further action towards the full realization of the rights of the child,

Welcoming the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the follow-up to the World Summit for Children in 2001,

I

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

1. *Once again urges* the States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify or accede to the Convention on the Rights of the Child[190] as a matter of priority, with a view to reaching the goal of universal adherence by the tenth anniversary, in 2000, of the World Summit for Children and of the entry into force of the Convention;

2. *Reiterates its concern* at the great number of reservations to the Convention, and urges States parties to withdraw reservations incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention and to review regularly any reservations with a view to withdrawing them;

3. *Calls upon* States parties to implement fully the Convention, and stresses that the implementation of the Convention contributes to the achievement of the goals of the World Summit for Children;

4. *Urges* States to involve children and youth in their efforts to implement the goals of the World Summit for Children and the Convention;

5. *Calls upon* States parties to cooperate closely with the Committee on the Rights of the Child and to comply in a timely manner with their reporting obligations under the Convention, in accordance with the guidelines elaborated by the Committee, and encourages States parties to take into account the recommendations made by the Committee in the implementation of the provisions of the Convention;

6. *Also calls upon* States parties to encourage training on the rights of the child for those involved in activities concerning children, for example, through the programme of advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of human rights;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the provision of appropriate staff and facilities for the effective and expeditious performance of the functions of the Committee, notes the temporary support given by the plan of action of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to strengthen the important role of the Committee in advancing the implementation of the Convention, and also requests the Secretary-General to make available information on the follow-up to the plan of action;

8. *Calls upon* States parties urgently to take appropriate measures so that acceptance of the amendment to paragraph 2 of article 43 of the Convention by a two-thirds majority of States parties can be reached as soon as possible, in order for the amendment to enter into force, increasing the membership of the Committee from ten to eighteen experts;

9. *Invites* the Committee to continue to enhance its constructive dialogue with the States parties and its transparent and effective functioning;

10. *Welcomes* the attention given by the Committee to the realization of the highest attainable standards of health and access to health care, and to the rights of children affected by human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, and urges Governments, in cooperation with relevant United Nations bodies and organizations, to adopt all appropriate measures with a view to the realization of all their rights;

11. *Calls upon* States to protect all human rights of migrant children, in particular unaccompanied migrant children, and to ensure that the best interest of the child shall accordingly be a primary consideration, and encourages the Committee, the United Nations Children's Fund and other relevant United Nations bodies, within their respective mandates, to pay particular attention to the conditions of migrant children in all States and, as appropriate, to make recommendations to strengthen their protection;

12. *Recommends* that, within their mandates, all relevant human rights mechanisms and all other relevant organs and mechanisms of the United Nations system and the supervisory bodies of the specialized agencies pay attention to particular situations in which children are in danger and in which their rights are violated and that they take into account the work of the Committee, and encourages the further development of the rights-based approach adopted by the United Nations Children's Fund and further steps to increase system-wide coordination and inter-agency cooperation for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child;

13. *Encourages* the Committee, in monitoring the implementation of the Convention, to continue to pay attention to the needs of children in especially difficult circumstances;

14. *Encourages* Governments and relevant United Nations bodies, as well as relevant non-governmental organizations and child rights advocates, to contribute, as appropriate, to the Web-based database launched by the United Nations Children's Fund, so as to continue the provision of information on laws, structures, policies and processes adopted at the national level to translate the Convention into practice;

II

PREVENTION AND ERADICATION OF THE SALE OF CHILDREN AND OF THEIR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE, INCLUDING CHILD PROSTITUTION AND CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

1. *Welcomes* the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[193] and expresses its support for her work;

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[193] See A/54/411.

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all necessary human and financial assistance to enable her to discharge her mandate fully;

3. *Invites* further voluntary contributions through the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and support for the work of the Special Rapporteur for the effective fulfilment of her mandate;

4. *Strongly supports* the work of the open-ended inter-sessional working group of the Commission on Human Rights on the elaboration of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child[190] related to the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and urges the working group to finalize its work before the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention in 2000;

5. *Reaffirms* the obligation of States parties to prevent the abduction of, the sale of or trafficking in children for any purpose or in any form and to protect children from all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse, in accordance with articles 35 and 34 of the Convention;

6. *Calls upon* States to criminalize and to penalize effectively all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse of children, including within the family or for commercial purposes, child pornography and child prostitution, including child sex tourism, while ensuring that the children victims of such practices are not penalized, and to take effective measures to ensure the prosecution of offenders, whether local or foreign, by the competent national authorities, either in the country of origin of the offender or in the country of destination, in accordance with due process of law;

7. *Also calls upon* States, in cases of child sex tourism, to enhance international cooperation among all relevant authorities, in particular law enforcement authorities, including the sharing of relevant data, in order to eradicate this practice;

8. *Requests* States to increase cooperation and concerted action at the national, regional and international levels, including in the context of the United Nations, by all relevant authorities and institutions, in order to adopt and implement effective measures for the prevention and eradication of the sale of children and of their sexual exploitation and abuse and to prevent and dismantle networks trafficking in children;

9. *Stresses* the need to combat the existence of a market that encourages such criminal practices against children, including through preventive and enforcement measures targeting customers or individuals who sexually exploit or abuse children;

10. *Calls upon* States to enact and enforce, review and revise, as appropriate, laws and to implement policies, programmes and practices to protect children from and to eliminate all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse, including commercial sexual exploitation, taking into account the particular problems posed by the use of the Internet in this regard;

11. *Encourages* Governments to facilitate the active participation of child victims of sexual exploitation and abuse in the development and implementation of strategies to protect children from sexual exploitation and abuse;

12. *Encourages* continued regional and interregional efforts, with the objective of identifying best practices and issues requiring particularly urgent action, to follow up the implementation of the measures in line with those outlined in the Declaration and Agenda for Action of the World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, held at Stockholm from 27 to 31 August 1996;[194]

13. *Invites* States and relevant United Nations bodies and agencies to allocate appropriate resources for the rehabilitation of child victims of sexual exploitation and abuse and to take all appropriate measures to promote their full recovery and social reintegration;

III

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AFFECTED BY ARMED CONFLICT

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the impact of armed conflict on children;[195]

2. *Expresses its support* for the work of the Special Representative, in particular in raising worldwide awareness and mobilizing official and public opinion for the protection of children affected by armed conflict, in order to promote respect for the rights and needs of children in conflict and post-conflict situations, and recommends that the Secretary-General extend his mandate, as established in paragraphs 35 to 37 of General Assembly resolution 51/77 of 12 December 1996, for a further period of three years;

3. *Urges* the Secretary-General and all relevant parts of the United Nations system, including the Special Representative and the United Nations Children's Fund, to intensify their efforts to develop a concerted approach to the rights, protection and welfare of children affected by armed conflict, including, as appropriate, in the preparations for the field visits of the Special Representative and in the follow-up to such visits;

4. *Calls upon* all States and other parties concerned to continue to cooperate with the Special Representative, to implement the commitments they have undertaken and to consider carefully all the recommendations of the Special Representative and address the issues identified;

5. *Welcomes* the continued support for and voluntary contributions to the work of the Special Representative;

6. *Urges* all States and other parties to armed conflict to respect international humanitarian law and to put an end to any form of targeting of children and to attacking sites that usually have a significant presence of children, calls upon States parties to respect fully the provisions of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[196] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[197] and calls upon all parties to armed conflict to take all measures required to protect children

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[194] A/51/385, annex.

[195] A/54/430, annex.

[196] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[197] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

from acts constituting violations of international humanitarian law, including prosecution by States, within their national legal framework, of those responsible for such violations;

7. *Recognizes*, in this regard, the contribution of the establishment of the International Criminal Court to ending impunity for perpetrators of certain crimes committed against children, as defined in the Statute of the Court,[198] which include, *inter alia*, those involving sexual violence or child soldiers, and thus to the prevention of such crimes;

8. *Condemns* the abduction of children in situations of armed conflict and into armed conflict, urges States, international organizations and other concerned parties to take all appropriate measures to secure the unconditional release of all abducted children, and urges States to bring the perpetrators to justice;

9. *Notes* the importance of the second open debate, held in the Security Council on 25 August 1999, on children and armed conflict[199] and the undertaking by the Council to give special attention to the protection, welfare and rights of children when taking action aimed at maintaining peace and security,[200] and reaffirms the essential role of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in the promotion and protection of the rights and welfare of children;

10. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflict to ensure the full, safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel and the delivery of humanitarian assistance to all children affected by armed conflict;

11. *Welcomes* the decision of the Economic and Social Council to call for systematic, concerted and comprehensive inter-agency efforts on behalf of children, as well as adequate and sustainable resource allocation, to provide both immediate emergency assistance to and long-term measures for children throughout all the phases of an emergency;[201]

12. *Urges* States and all other parties to armed conflict to end the use of children as soldiers and to ensure their demobilization and effective disarmament, and to implement effective measures for the rehabilitation, physical and psychological recovery and reintegration into society of all child victims in cases of armed conflict, invites the international community to assist in this endeavour, and emphasizes that no support that enables or contributes to the use of child soldiers should be given to those who use child soldiers;

13. *Calls upon* States and relevant United Nations bodies to continue to support national and international mine action efforts, including by financial contributions, mine awareness programmes, victim assistance and child-centred rehabilitation, and welcomes the positive effects on children of concrete legislative measures with respect to anti-personnel mines;

14. *Notes with concern* the impact of small arms and light weapons on children in situations of armed conflict, in particular as a result of their illicit production and traffic, and calls upon States to address this problem;

15. *Recommends* that, whenever sanctions are imposed, their impact on children be assessed and monitored and that humanitarian exemptions be child-focused and formulated with clear guidelines for their application;

16. *Calls upon* States, relevant United Nations bodies and agencies and regional organizations to integrate the rights of the child into all activities in conflict and post-conflict situations, including training programmes and emergency relief operations, country programmes and field operations aimed at promoting peace and preventing and resolving conflict, as well as negotiating and implementing peace agreements, and, given the long-term consequences for society, underlines the importance of including specific provisions for children, including resourcing, in peace agreements and in arrangements negotiated by parties;

17. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts by, *inter alia*, regional organizations, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to bring to an end the use of children as soldiers in armed conflict, and reaffirms the urgent need to raise the current minimum age limit set by article 38 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[190] on the recruitment and participation of any person in armed conflict with the aim of ending the use of child soldiers;

18. *Strongly supports* the work of the open-ended inter-sessional working group of the Commission on Human Rights on the elaboration of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child related to the involvement of children in armed conflict and the consultations conducted by the chairperson of the working group in order to make further progress with the aim of finalizing its work before the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention;

IV

REFUGEE AND INTERNALLY DISPLACED CHILDREN

1. *Urges* Governments to improve the implementation of policies and programmes for the protection, care and well-being of refugee and internally displaced children, with the necessary international cooperation, in particular with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children's Fund and the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons, in accordance with the obligations of States under the Convention on the Rights of the Child;[190]

2. *Calls upon* all States and other parties to armed conflict, as well as United Nations bodies and organizations, to give urgent attention, in terms of protection and assistance, to the fact that refugee and internally displaced children are particularly exposed to risks in connection with armed conflict, such as being forcibly recruited or subjected to sexual violence, abuse or exploitation;

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[198] See A/CONF.183/9, art. 8.

[199] See S/PV.4037 and Corr.1 and S/PV.4037 (Resumption 1). For the final text, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Plenary Meetings*, 4037th meeting.

[200] See Security Council resolution 1261 (1999).

[201] See A/54/3, chap. VI, para. 5, agreed conclusions 1999/1, para. 22. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1).

3. *Expresses its deep concern* about the growing number of unaccompanied refugee and internally displaced children, and calls upon all States and United Nations bodies and agencies and other relevant organizations to give priority to programmes for family tracing and reunification and to continue to monitor the care arrangements for unaccompanied refugee and internally displaced children;

V

PROGRESSIVE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the child to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development;

2. *Welcomes* the adoption by the International Labour Organization, at the eighty-seventh session of the International Labour Conference, held at Geneva from 1 to 17 June 1999, of the Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, Convention No. 182, and encourages all States to consider ratifying it as a matter of priority with a view to its entry into force as soon as possible;

3. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying the conventions of the International Labour Organization relating to child labour, in particular the Convention concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour, 1930, Convention No. 29, and the Convention concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, 1973, Convention No. 138, and to implement those Conventions;

4. *Calls upon* all States to translate into concrete action their commitment to the progressive and effective elimination of child labour contrary to accepted international standards, and urges them, *inter alia*, to eliminate immediately the worst forms of child labour as set out in the new International Labour Organization Convention No. 182;

5. *Also calls upon* all States to assess and examine systematically the magnitude, nature and causes of child labour and to elaborate and implement strategies for the elimination of child labour contrary to accepted international standards, giving special attention to specific dangers faced by girls, as well as to the rehabilitation and social reintegration of the children concerned;

6. *Recognizes* that primary education is one of the main instruments for reintegrating child workers, calls upon all States to recognize the right to education by making primary education compulsory and to ensure that all children have access to free primary education as a key strategy to prevent child labour, and recognizes, in particular, the important role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund in this regard;

7. *Calls upon* all States and the United Nations system to strengthen international cooperation as a means of assisting Governments in preventing or combating violations of the rights of the child and in attaining the objective of the elimination of child labour contrary to accepted international standards;

8. *Calls upon* all States to strengthen cooperation and coordination at the national and the international levels to address effectively the problem of child labour, in close cooperation, *inter alia*, with the International Labour Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund;

VI

THE PLIGHT OF CHILDREN WORKING AND/OR LIVING ON THE STREETS

1. *Calls upon* Governments to seek comprehensive solutions to the problems causing children to work and/or live on the streets and to implement appropriate programmes and policies for the protection and the rehabilitation and reintegration of those children, bearing in mind that such children are particularly vulnerable to all forms of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect;

2. *Calls upon* all States to ensure that services are provided for children to divert them from and to address the economic imperatives for involvement in harmful, exploitative and abusive activity;

3. *Strongly urges* all Governments to guarantee respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular the right to life, to take urgent and effective measures to prevent the killing of children working and/or living on the streets, to combat torture and abusive treatment and violence against them and to bring the perpetrators to justice;

4. *Calls upon* the international community to support, through effective international cooperation, including technical advice and assistance, the efforts of States to improve the situation of children working and/or living on the streets;

VII

CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

1. *Welcomes* the establishment of a working group, following the decision of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, with the aim of elaborating a plan of action on children with disabilities, in close cooperation with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission for Social Development on Disability and other relevant parts of the United Nations system;[202]

2. *Calls upon* all States to take all necessary measures to ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by children with disabilities and to develop and enforce legislation against their discrimination;

3. *Also calls upon* all States to promote for children with disabilities a full and decent life, in conditions that ensure dignity, promote self-reliance and facilitate the child's active participation in the community, including effective access to education and health services;

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[202] See CRC/C/69, paras. 310–339, CRC/C/80, paras. 244–247, and CRC/C/84, paras. 219–222.

VIII

Decides:

(*a*) To request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the rights of the child containing information on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[190] and the problems addressed in the present resolution;

(*b*) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the impact of armed conflict on children to submit to the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights reports containing relevant information on the situation of children affected by armed conflict, bearing in mind existing mandates and reports of relevant bodies;

(*c*) To continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-fifth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of the child".

RESOLUTION 54/150

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/602)

54/150. International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/129 of 9 December 1998 and previous resolutions on the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People,

Recalling also that the goal of the Decade is to strengthen international cooperation for the solution of problems faced by indigenous people in such areas as human rights, the environment, development, education and health and that the theme of the Decade is "Indigenous people: partnership in action",

Recognizing the importance of consultation and cooperation with indigenous people in planning and implementing the programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People,[203] the need for adequate financial support from the international community, including support from within the United Nations system, and the need for adequate coordination and communication channels,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People;[204]

2. *Affirms its conviction* of the value and diversity of the cultures and forms of social organization of indigenous people and its conviction that the development of indigenous people within their countries will contribute to the socio-economic, cultural and environmental advancement of all the countries of the world;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of strengthening the human and institutional capacity of indigenous people to develop their own solutions to their problems, welcomes in this context the holding of the Workshop on Higher Education and Indigenous Peoples at San José, Costa Rica, from 28 June to 2 July 1999, and requests the Commission on Human Rights to consider the recommendations of the Workshop;[205]

4. *Takes note* of the mid-term report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in her capacity as coordinator of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People,[206] reviewing the implementation of the programme of activities of the Decade, and of the information contained therein about the activities of the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations, relating to indigenous people, and urges all parties concerned to intensify their efforts to achieve the goals of the Decade;

5. *Requests* the High Commissioner, as coordinator of the Decade:

(*a*) To continue to promote the objectives of the Decade, taking into account, in the fulfilment of her functions, the special concerns of indigenous people;

(*b*) To give due regard to the dissemination, from within existing resources and voluntary contributions, of information on the situation, cultures, languages, rights and aspirations of indigenous people and, in that context, to consider the possibility of organizing projects, special events, exhibitions and other activities addressed to the public, in particular to young people;

(*c*) To submit, through the Secretary-General, an annual report to the General Assembly on the implementation of the programme of activities of the Decade;

6. *Reaffirms* the adoption of a declaration on the rights of indigenous people as a major objective of the Decade, and underlines the importance of effective participation by indigenous representatives in the open-ended inter-sessional working group of the Commission on Human Rights charged with developing a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people, established pursuant to Commission resolution 1995/32 of 3 March 1995;[207]

7. *Also reaffirms*, among the objectives of the Decade listed in the programme of activities, the consideration of the establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous people in the United Nations system;

8. *Urges* Governments to participate actively in the open-ended inter-sessional ad hoc working group that the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 1999/52 of 27 April 1999[208] decided to re-establish from within existing overall United Nations resources, which is to meet for eight

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[203] Resolution 50/157, annex.

[204] A/54/487 and Add.1.

[205] See E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/1999/5, para. 62.

[206] E/CN.4/1999/81.

[207] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[208] Ibid., *1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

working days prior to the fifty-sixth session of the Commission to submit, with a view to completing its task, one or more concrete proposals on the possible establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous people in the United Nations system;

9. *Decides* that the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations, established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 40/131 of 13 December 1985 and modified by Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/32 and Assembly resolutions 50/156 of 21 December 1995 and 53/130 of 9 December 1998, should also be used to assist representatives of indigenous communities and organizations in participating in the deliberations of the open-ended inter-sessional ad hoc working group of the Commission on Human Rights re-established in accordance with Commission resolution 1999/52;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations for the work it has accomplished;

11. *Encourages* Governments to support the Decade by:

(*a*) Preparing relevant programmes, plans and reports in relation to the Decade, in consultation with indigenous people;

(*b*) Seeking means, in consultation with indigenous people, of giving indigenous people greater responsibility for their own affairs and an effective voice in decisions on matters that affect them;

(*c*) Establishing national committees or other mechanisms involving indigenous people to ensure that the objectives and activities of the Decade are planned and implemented on the basis of full partnership with indigenous people;

(*d*) Contributing to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People;

(*e*) Contributing, together with other donors, to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations in order to assist indigenous representatives in participating in the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights,[209] the open-ended inter-sessional working group charged with developing a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people and the re-established open-ended inter-sessional ad hoc working group on the possible establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous people in the United Nations system;

(*f*) Considering contributing, as appropriate, to the Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples in Latin America and the Caribbean, in support of the goals of the Decade;

(*g*) Identifying resources for activities designed to implement the goals of the Decade, in cooperation with indigenous people and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

12. *Welcomes* the offer of the Government of Spain to host at Seville in February 2000 the first meeting of the open-ended inter-sessional ad hoc working group on article 8 (*j*) of the Convention on Biological Diversity[210] regarding the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities, and encourages Governments to include representatives of indigenous and local communities in their delegations to the meeting;

13. *Invites* United Nations financial and development institutions, operational programmes and the specialized agencies, as well as other regional and international organizations, in accordance with the existing procedures of their governing bodies:

(*a*) To give increased priority and resources to improving the conditions of indigenous people, with particular emphasis on the needs of those people in developing countries, including through the preparation of specific programmes of action for the implementation of the goals of the Decade, within their areas of competence;

(*b*) To launch special projects, through appropriate channels and in cooperation with indigenous people, to strengthen their community-level initiatives and to facilitate the exchange of information and expertise among indigenous people and other relevant experts;

(*c*) To designate focal points for the coordination of activities related to the Decade with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

and commends those institutions, programmes, agencies and regional and international organizations that have already done so;

14. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General ensure coordinated follow-up to the recommendations concerning indigenous people of relevant United Nations conferences, namely, the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 3 to 14 June 1992, the International Conference on Population and Development, held at Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994, the Fourth World Conference on Women, held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995, the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held at Istanbul, Turkey, from 3 to 14 June 1996, and the World Food Summit, held at Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996, and other relevant international conferences;

15. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to submit, through the Secretary-General, a

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[209] The Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities was renamed the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 1999/256 of 27 July 1999.

[210] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institutions Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

report on the implementation of the programme of activities of the Decade to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People".

RESOLUTION 54/151

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 110 to 16, with 35 abstentions,[211] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/604)

54/151. Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/135 of 9 December 1998, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/3 of 23 April 1999,[212]

Recalling also all of its relevant resolutions, in which, *inter alia*, it condemned any State that permitted or tolerated the recruitment, financing, training, assembly, transit and use of mercenaries with the objective of overthrowing the Governments of States Members of the United Nations, especially those of developing countries, and recalling further the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the Organization of African Unity,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations concerning the strict observance of the principles of sovereign equality, political independence, the territorial integrity of States, the non-use of force or of the threat of use of force in international relations and the self-determination of peoples,

Reaffirming also that, by virtue of the principle of self-determination, as developed in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[213] all peoples have the right freely to determine, without external interference, their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development and every State has the duty to respect this right in accordance with the provisions of the Charter,

Recognizing that mercenary activities continue to increase in many parts of the world and take on new forms, permitting mercenaries to operate in a better organized way, with increased pay, and that their numbers have grown and more persons are prepared to become mercenaries,

Alarmed and concerned about the danger that the activities of mercenaries constitute to peace and security in developing countries, in particular in Africa and in small States, and also elsewhere,

Deeply concerned about the loss of life, the substantial damage to property and the negative effects on the policy and economies of affected countries resulting from mercenary aggression and criminal activities,

Convinced that it is necessary for Member States to ratify the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries adopted by the General Assembly on 4 December 1989[214] and to develop and maintain international cooperation among States for the prevention, prosecution and punishment of mercenary activities,

Convinced also that, notwithstanding the way in which mercenaries or mercenary-related activities are used or the form they take to acquire some semblance of legitimacy, they are a threat to peace, security and the self-determination of peoples and an obstacle to the enjoyment of human rights by peoples,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination;[215]

2. *Reaffirms* that the recruitment, use, financing and training of mercenaries are causes for grave concern to all States and violate the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Recognizes* that armed conflict, terrorism, arms trafficking and covert operations by third Powers, *inter alia*, encourage the demand for mercenaries on the global market;

4. *Urges* all States to take the necessary steps and to exercise the utmost vigilance against the menace posed by the activities of mercenaries and to take the necessary legislative measures to ensure that their territories and other territories under their control, as well as their nationals, are not used for the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries for the planning of activities designed to destabilize or overthrow the Government of any State or threaten the territorial integrity and political unity of sovereign States, or to promote secession or to fight the national liberation movements struggling against colonial or other forms of alien domination or occupation;

5. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to consider taking the necessary action to sign or to ratify the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries;[214]

6. *Welcomes* the cooperation extended by those countries that have invited the Special Rapporteur;

7. *Also welcomes* the adoption by some States of national legislation that restricts the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries;

8. *Invites* States to investigate the possibility of mercenary involvement whenever criminal acts of a terrorist nature occur;

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[211] For details, see annex II.

[212] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[213] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[214] Resolution 44/34, annex.

[215] See A/54/326.

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the necessary assistance, both professional and financial;

10. *Urges* all States to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the fulfilment of his mandate;

11. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as a matter of priority to be programmed in its immediate activities, to publicize the adverse effects of the activities of mercenaries on the right to self-determination and, when requested and where necessary, to render advisory services to States that are affected by the activities of mercenaries;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite Governments to make proposals towards a clearer legal definition of mercenaries, and, in this regard, requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to convene expert meetings, as requested in previous General Assembly resolutions, to study and update the international legislation in force and to propose recommendations for a clearer legal definition of mercenaries that would allow for more efficient prevention and punishment of mercenary activities;

13. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to report his findings on the use of mercenaries to undermine the right of peoples to self-determination, with specific recommendations, to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

14. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-fifth session the question of the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

RESOLUTION 54/152

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 156 to 2, with 1 abstention,[216] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/604)

54/152. The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Aware that the development of friendly relations among nations, based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, is among the purposes and principles of the United Nations, as defined in the Charter,

Recalling the International Covenants on Human Rights,[217] the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[218] the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples[219] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[220]

Recalling also the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[221]

Expressing hope for rapid progress in the peace process and the achievement of a final settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides by the agreed time of September 2000,

Affirming the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including the option of a State;

2. *Expresses the hope* that the Palestinian people will soon be exercising their right to self-determination, which is not subject to any veto, in the current peace process;

3. *Urges* all States and the specialized agencies and the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in their quest for self-determination.

RESOLUTION 54/153

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/603)

54/153. Measures to combat contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/133 of 9 December 1998, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/78 of 28 April 1999,[222]

Stressing that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993[223] attaches importance to the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance,

Convinced that racism, as one of the exclusionist phenomena plaguing many societies, requires resolute action and cooperation for its eradication,

Having examined the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,[224] including its conclusions and recommendations,

Deeply concerned that, despite continued efforts, racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, as well as acts of violence, persist and even grow in magnitude, incessantly adopting new forms, including tendencies to establish policies based on racial, religious, ethnic, cultural and national superiority or exclusivity,

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[216] For details, see annex II.

[217] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[218] Resolution 217 A (III).

[219] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[220] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[221] See resolution 50/6.

[222] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[223] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[224] See A/54/347.

Deeply concerned also that those advocating racism and racial discrimination misuse new communication technologies, including the Internet, to disseminate their repugnant views,

Noting that the use of such technologies can also contribute to combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Conscious of the fundamental difference between, on the one hand, racism and racial discrimination as governmental policy or resulting from official doctrines of racial superiority or exclusivity and, on the other hand, other manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance that are increasingly visible in segments of many societies and are perpetrated by individuals or groups, some of which manifestations are directed against migrant workers and members of their families,

Reaffirming, in this regard, the responsibility of Governments for safeguarding and protecting the rights of individuals residing in their territory against crimes perpetrated by racist or xenophobic individuals or groups,

Recognizing both the challenges and the opportunities in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in an increasingly globalized world,

Noting with concern that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance may be aggravated by, *inter alia*, inequitable distribution of wealth, marginalization and social exclusion,

Deeply concerned that racism and racial discrimination against migrant workers continue to increase despite the efforts undertaken by the international community to protect the human rights of migrant workers and members of their families,

Noting that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, in its general recommendation XV (42) of 17 March 1993[225] concerning article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[226] holds that the prohibition of the dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or racial hatred is compatible with the right to freedom of opinion and expression as outlined in article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[227] and in article 5 of the Convention,

Noting also that the reports that the States parties submit under the Convention contain, *inter alia*, information about the causes of as well as measures to combat contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Particularly alarmed at the rise of racist and xenophobic ideas in political circles, in the sphere of public opinion and in society at large,

Noting with appreciation that the Special Rapporteur will continue to pay attention to the rise of racist and xenophobic ideas in political circles, in the sphere of public opinion and in society at large,

Underlining the importance of urgently eliminating growing and violent trends of racism and racial discrimination, and conscious that any form of impunity for crimes motivated by racist and xenophobic attitudes plays a role in weakening the rule of law and democracy and tends to encourage the recurrence of such crimes, and requires resolute action and cooperation for its eradication,

Emphasizing the importance of creating conditions that foster greater harmony and tolerance within societies,

1. *Reaffirms* the proclamation of 2001 as the International Year of Mobilization against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance;[228]

2. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies, Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to carry out, promote and disseminate activities and action within the framework of the commemorative year in order to strengthen its impact and ensure its success, in particular the outcome of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance;

3. *Expresses its full support and appreciation* for the work of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, encourages its continuation, and takes note with appreciation of the report of the Special Rapporteur;[224]

4. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue his exchange of views with Member States, related United Nations organs and the specialized agencies, other relevant mechanisms and non-governmental organizations in order to further their effectiveness and mutual cooperation;

5. *Commends* the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination for its role in the effective implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[226] which contributes to the fight against contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

6. *Reaffirms* that acts of racist violence against others stemming from racism do not constitute expressions of opinion but rather offences;

7. *Declares* that racism and racial discrimination are among the most serious violations of human rights in the contemporary world and must be combated by all available means;

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[225] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/48/18), chap. VIII, sect. B.

[226] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[227] Resolution 217 A (III).

[228] Resolution 53/132, sect. III.

8. *Expresses its profound concern about and unequivocal condemnation* of all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, in particular all racist violence, including related acts of random and indiscriminate violence;

9. *Also expresses its profound concern about and unequivocal condemnation* of all forms of racism and racial discrimination, including propaganda, activities and organizations based on doctrines of superiority of one race or group of persons that attempt to justify or promote racism and racial discrimination in any form;

10. *Expresses its profound concern about and condemnation* of manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against as well as stereotyping of migrant workers and members of their families, persons belonging to minorities and members of vulnerable groups in many societies;

11. *Expresses deep concern* about the increase in racial and xenophobic violence in many parts of the world, as well as the increasing number of associations established on the basis of racist and xenophobic platforms and charters, as reflected in the report of the Special Rapporteur;

12. *Encourages* all States to include in their educational curricula and social programmes at all levels, as appropriate, knowledge of and tolerance and respect for foreign cultures, peoples and countries;

13. *Recognizes* that the increasing gravity of different manifestations of racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia in various parts of the world requires a more integrated and effective approach on the part of the relevant mechanisms of United Nations human rights machinery;

14. *Encourages* Governments to take appropriate measures to eradicate all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

15. *Calls upon* all States to review and, where necessary, revise their immigration policies with a view to eliminating all discriminatory policies and practices against migrants which are inconsistent with relevant international human rights instruments;

16. *Condemns* the misuse of print, audio-visual and electronic media and new communication technologies, including the Internet, to incite violence motivated by racial hatred;

17. *Recognizes* that Governments should implement and enforce appropriate and effective legislation to prevent acts of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

18. *Calls upon* all Governments and intergovernmental organizations, with the assistance of non-governmental organizations, as appropriate, to continue to supply relevant information to the Special Rapporteur to enable him to fulfil his mandate;

19. *Commends* non-governmental organizations for the action that they have taken against racism and racial discrimination and for the continuous support and assistance that they have provided to the victims of racism and racial discrimination;

20. *Urges* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur with a view to enabling him to fulfil his mandate, including the examination of incidents of contemporary forms of racism and racial discrimination, *inter alia*, against blacks, Arabs and Muslims, xenophobia, Negrophobia, anti-Semitism and related intolerance;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the necessary human and financial assistance to carry out his mandate efficiently, effectively and expeditiously and to enable him to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 54/154

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/603)

54/154. Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and the convening of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its objectives, as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, of achieving international cooperation in solving problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Reaffirming also its firm determination and its commitment to eradicate totally and unconditionally racism in all its forms and racial discrimination and its conviction that racism and racial discrimination constitute a total negation of the purposes and principles of the Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[229]

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[230] and the Convention against Discrimination in Education, adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 14 December 1960,[231]

Noting the efforts of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination since its establishment in 1970 to promote the implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,

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[229] Resolution 217 A (III).

[230] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[231] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 429, No. 6193.

Recalling the outcome of the two World Conferences to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, held at Geneva in 1978[232] and in 1983,[233]

Recalling also the outcome of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, and, in particular, the attention given in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[234] to the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance,

Stressing the importance and sensitivity of the activities of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Recalling with satisfaction its resolutions 48/91 of 20 December 1993 and 49/146 of 23 December 1994, by which, respectively, it proclaimed the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, which began in 1993, and adopted the revised Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,

Noting with grave concern that, despite the efforts of the international community, the principal objectives of the two previous Decades for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination have not been attained and that millions of human beings continue to the present day to be the victims of varied forms of racism and racial discrimination,

Noting with great concern that, despite the efforts undertaken by the international community at various levels, racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, ethnic antagonism and acts of violence are showing signs of increase in many parts of the world and that the number of associations established on the basis of racist and xenophobic platforms and charters is increasing, as reflected in the report of the Special Rapporteur,[235]

Alarmed that technological developments in the field of communications, including the Internet, continue to be utilized by various groups engaged in violent activity to promote racist and xenophobic propaganda aimed at inciting racial hatred and to collect funds to sustain violent campaigns against multi-ethnic societies throughout the world,

Noting that the use of such technologies can also contribute to combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary-General[236] within the framework of the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Recalling its resolution 53/132 of 9 December 1998, in which it requested the Secretary-General to ensure the financial and personnel resources necessary for the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Recognizing the importance of strengthening national legislation and institutions for the promotion of racial harmony and for the effective enforcement of such legislation,

Remaining firmly convinced of the need to take more effective and sustained measures at the national and international levels for the elimination of all forms of racism and racial discrimination,

Deeply concerned that the phenomenon of racism and racial discrimination against migrant workers continues to increase, despite the efforts made by the international community to improve the protection of the human rights of migrant workers and members of their families,

Recalling the adoption at its forty-fifth session of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[237]

Acknowledging that indigenous people are at times victims of particular forms of racism and racial discrimination,

I

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE THIRD DECADE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES

1. *Welcomes* the report submitted by the Secretary-General;[236]

2. *Reaffirms* that racism and racial discrimination are among the most serious violations of human rights in the contemporary world, and expresses its firm determination and its commitment to eradicate, by all available means, racism in all its forms and racial discrimination;

3. *Urges* all Governments to take all necessary measures to combat new forms of racism, in particular by constantly adapting the means provided to combat them, especially in the legislative, administrative, education and information fields;

4. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to assign a high priority to the follow-up to programmes and activities for combating racism and racial discrimination, consistent with the need to ensure the effective preparation of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General in his reports on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance to accord special attention to and provide information on the situation of migrant workers in this regard;

6. *Calls upon* all Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families[237] as a matter of priority;

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[232] See *Report of the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, Geneva, 14–25 August 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.XIV.2).

[233] See *Report of the second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, Geneva, 1–12 August 1983* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.XIV.4 and corrigendum).

[234] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[235] See A/54/347.

[236] A/54/299.

[237] Resolution 45/158, annex.

7. *Commends* all States that have ratified or acceded to the international instruments to combat racism and racial discrimination, especially the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[230] and the Convention against Discrimination in Education;[231]

8. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in order to achieve its universal ratification;

9. *Urges* States to limit the extent of any reservation they lodge to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, to formulate any reservation as precisely and as narrowly as possible, to ensure that no reservations are incompatible with the objective and purpose of the Convention or otherwise incompatible with international treaty law, to review their reservations regularly with a view to withdrawing them and to withdraw reservations that are contrary to the objective and purpose of the Convention or that are otherwise incompatible with international treaty law;

10. *Encourages* the mass media to promote ideas of tolerance and understanding among peoples and different cultures;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to draw attention to the effects of racial discrimination on minorities and migrant workers and members of their families, especially women and children, in the fields of education, training and employment and to submit in his report specific recommendations for the implementation of measures to combat such discrimination;

12. *Recognizes* the need for adequate support and financial resources for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, and requests the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session concrete proposals on how to ensure the financial and personnel resources required for the implementation of the Programme of Action, including through the regular budget of the United Nations and extrabudgetary sources;

13. *Expresses its appreciation* to those who have made contributions to the Trust Fund for the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, strongly appeals to all Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals in a position to do so to contribute generously to the Fund, and to this end requests the Secretary-General to continue to establish the appropriate contacts and undertake the appropriate initiatives;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-sixth session on the outcome of expert seminars held in connection with the activities of the Third Decade;

15. *Welcomes* the establishment of the racism project team in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with a view to coordinating all activities of the Third Decade;

16. *Urges* all Governments, the Secretary-General, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations, in implementing the Programme of Action, to pay particular attention to the situation of indigenous people;

17. *Requests* States to consider the relevant decisions of the Economic and Social Council on the integrated follow-up to previous world conferences and the need to make optimum use of all available mechanisms in the struggle against racism;

18. *Strongly underlines* the importance of education as a significant means of preventing and eradicating racism and racial discrimination and of creating awareness of principles of human rights, in particular among young people, and in this regard requests the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue its work on the preparation and dissemination of teaching materials and teaching aids to promote teaching, training and educational activities on human rights and against racism and racial discrimination, with particular emphasis on activities at the primary and secondary levels of education;

19. *Considers* that, in order to attain the objectives of the Third Decade, all parts of the Programme of Action should be given equal attention;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to accord high priority to the activities of the Programme of Action, and in this regard also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the necessary financial resources are provided for the implementation of the activities of the Third Decade during the biennium 2000–2001;

21. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to submit each year to the Economic and Social Council a detailed report on all activities of United Nations bodies and the specialized agencies containing an analysis of information received on activities to combat racism and racial discrimination;

22. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly proposals which would assist in the full implementation of the Programme of Action;

23. *Reiterates its calls upon* all Governments, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and intergovernmental and regional organizations and interested non-governmental organizations to contribute fully to the effective implementation of the Programme of Action;

II

WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST RACISM, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, XENOPHOBIA AND RELATED INTOLERANCE

24. *Recalls* its resolutions 52/111 of 12 December 1997 and 53/132 of 9 December 1998, in which it established that the Commission on Human Rights would act as the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and takes note of Commission on Human Rights

resolution 1999/78 of 28 April 1999[238] and Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/12 of 27 July 1999;

25. *Recommends* that the Preparatory Committee give consideration to the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including the recommendation contained in paragraph 41 (*b*) of his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;[239]

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that adequate financial resources are made available for the preparatory process for the World Conference, including from the regular budget of the United Nations;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to make every effort to ensure the mobilization of resources for the voluntary fund for the World Conference to cover the participation of the least developed countries in the preparatory process and in the Conference itself, and requests all Governments, international and non-governmental organizations and private individuals to contribute to the fund;

28. *Calls upon* the High Commissioner to help States and regional organizations, upon request, to convene national and regional meetings or to undertake other initiatives, including activities at the expert level, to prepare for the World Conference, and urges the specialized agencies and the regional commissions, in coordination with the High Commissioner, to contribute to the convening of regional preparatory meetings;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and the regional commissions to provide financial and technical assistance for the organization of the regional preparatory meetings planned in the context of the World Conference, and stresses that such assistance should be supplemented by voluntary contributions;

30. *Decides* that the World Conference and the sessions of the Preparatory Committee should be open to the participation of:

(*a*) All States Members of the United Nations and States members of the specialized agencies;

(*b*) Representatives of all regional organizations and regional commissions involved in the preparation of regional meetings, as well as associate members of the regional commissions;

(*c*) Representatives of organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the capacity of observers;

(*d*) Representatives of the specialized agencies, the secretariats of the regional commissions and all United Nations bodies and programmes;

(*e*) Representatives of all United Nations mechanisms in the field of human rights;

(*f*) Other interested governmental organizations, which shall be represented by observers;

(*g*) Interested non-governmental organizations, which shall be represented by observers in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996;

31. *Welcomes* the offer by the Government of South Africa to host the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance in 2001;

32. *Requests* the High Commissioner:

(*a*) To undertake a study, to be submitted to the Preparatory Committee at its first session, on ways of improving coordination between her Office and all specialized agencies and international, regional and subregional organizations with regard to action to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(*b*) To continue to devise and implement, with the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, a world information campaign aimed at sensitizing public opinion to the importance and the objectives of the World Conference, to publish in all the official languages of the United Nations an information pamphlet that is to be made available to non-governmental organizations, the media and the general public and to inform the Preparatory Committee of developments in this regard;

(*c*) To help States, upon request, and regional organizations to convene national and regional meetings or to undertake other initiatives, including activities at the expert level, to prepare for the World Conference;

(*d*) To draw up a draft agenda for the first session of the Preparatory Committee, taking into consideration, *inter alia*, the need to address in a comprehensive manner all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related contemporary forms of intolerance;

(*e*) To continue fund-raising activities in order to increase the resources for the voluntary fund established specifically to cover all aspects of the preparatory process for the World Conference and the participation of non-governmental organizations, in particular those from developing countries;

33. *Welcomes* the proposals on the themes for the World Conference made by the sessional open-ended working group to review and formulate proposals for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance of the Commission on Human Rights;

34. *Decides* that the World Conference shall be action-oriented and shall focus on practical measures to eradicate racism, including measures of prevention, education and protection and through the provision of effective remedies, taking into full consideration the existing human rights instruments;

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[238] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[239] See A/53/269.

35. *Requests* the Preparatory Committee to begin drafting as soon as possible a final document on specific goals as well as objectives and timetables for their achievement;

36. *Appeals* to Member States to contribute generously to the voluntary fund for the World Conference to cover the preparatory process and the Conference and the participation of non-governmental organizations from developing countries;

37. *Requests* Governments, the specialized agencies, other international organizations, concerned United Nations bodies, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants and other human rights mechanisms to assist the Preparatory Committee and to undertake reviews and submit recommendations concerning the World Conference and the preparations therefor to the Preparatory Committee, through the Secretary-General, and to participate actively in the Conference;

38. *Calls upon* States and regional organizations to convene national and regional meetings or to undertake other initiatives, such as public information campaigns, to raise awareness of the World Conference as part of the preparation for the Conference, and requests regional preparatory meetings to submit reports to the Preparatory Committee, through the Secretary-General, on the outcome of their deliberations, including practical and action-oriented recommendations to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

III

PROCLAMATION OF 2001 AS THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF MOBILIZATION AGAINST RACISM, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, XENOPHOBIA AND RELATED INTOLERANCE

39. *Strongly reaffirms* the proclamation of 2001 as the International Year of Mobilization against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and in this context calls upon Governments, the United Nations and non-governmental organizations to observe the International Year in a suitable manner, including through programmes of action;

IV

GENERAL

40. *Decides* to keep the item entitled "Elimination of racism and racial discrimination" on its agenda and to consider it as a matter of high priority at its fifty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 54/155

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/604)

54/155. Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance, for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights, of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and embodied in the International Covenants on Human Rights,[240] as well as in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Welcoming the progressive exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial, foreign or alien occupation and their emergence into sovereign statehood and independence,

Deeply concerned at the continuation of acts or threats of foreign military intervention and occupation that are threatening to suppress, or have already suppressed, the right to self-determination of sovereign peoples and nations,

Expressing grave concern that, as a consequence of the persistence of such actions, millions of people have been and are being uprooted from their homes as refugees and displaced persons, and emphasizing the urgent need for concerted international action to alleviate their condition,

Recalling the relevant resolutions regarding the violation of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights as a result of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its thirty-sixth,[241] thirty-seventh,[242] thirty-eighth,[243] thirty-ninth,[244] fortieth,[245] forty-first,[246] forty-second,[247] forty-third,[248] forty-fourth,[249] forty-fifth,[250] forty-sixth,[251] forty-seventh,[252] forty-eighth,[253] forty-ninth,[254] fiftieth,[255] fifty-first,[256] fifty-second,[257] fifty-third,[258] fifty-fourth[259] and fifty-fifth[260] sessions,

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[240] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[241] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1980, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/1980/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

[242] Ibid., *1981, Supplement No. 5* and corrigendum (E/1981/25 and Corr.1), chap. XXVIII, sect. A.

[243] Ibid., *1982, Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/1982/12 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

[244] Ibid., *1983, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/1983/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVII, sect. A.

[245] Ibid., *1984, Supplement No. 4* and corrigendum (E/1984/14 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[246] Ibid., *1985, Supplement No. 2* (E/1985/22), chap. II, sect. A.

[247] Ibid., *1986, Supplement No. 2* (E/1986/22), chap. II, sect. A.

[248] Ibid., *1987, Supplement No. 5* and corrigenda (E/1987/18 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[249] Ibid., *1988, Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/1988/12 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[250] Ibid., *1989, Supplement No. 2* (E/1989/20), chap. II, sect. A.

[251] Ibid., *1990, Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/1990/22 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[252] Ibid., *1991, Supplement No. 2* (E/1991/22), chap. II, sect. A.

Reaffirming its resolutions 35/35 B of 14 November 1980, 36/10 of 28 October 1981, 37/42 of 3 December 1982, 38/16 of 22 November 1983, 39/18 of 23 November 1984, 40/24 of 29 November 1985, 41/100 of 4 December 1986, 42/94 of 7 December 1987, 43/105 of 8 December 1988, 44/80 of 8 December 1989, 45/131 of 14 December 1990, 46/88 of 16 December 1991, 47/83 of 16 December 1992, 48/93 of 20 December 1993, 49/148 of 23 December 1994, 50/139 of 21 December 1995, 51/84 of 12 December 1996, 52/113 of 12 December 1997 and 53/134 of 9 December 1998,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the right of peoples to self-determination,[261]

1. *Reaffirms* that the universal realization of the right of all peoples, including those under colonial, foreign and alien domination, to self-determination is a fundamental condition for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights and for the preservation and promotion of such rights;

2. *Declares its firm opposition* to acts of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, since these have resulted in the suppression of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights in certain parts of the world;

3. *Calls upon* those States responsible to cease immediately their military intervention in and occupation of foreign countries and territories and all acts of repression, discrimination, exploitation and maltreatment, in particular the brutal and inhuman methods reportedly employed for the execution of those acts against the peoples concerned;

4. *Deplores* the plight of the millions of refugees and displaced persons who have been uprooted as a result of the aforementioned acts, and reaffirms their right to return to their homes voluntarily in safety and honour;

5. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue to give special attention to the violation of human rights, especially the right to self-determination, resulting from foreign military intervention, aggression or occupation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on this question to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

RESOLUTION 54/156

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.1 and Corr.1)

54/156. Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

The General Assembly,

Recalling article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[262] article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[263] the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[264] and its resolution 39/46 of 10 December 1984, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and all its subsequent relevant resolutions,

Recalling that freedom from torture is a right that must be protected under all circumstances, including in times of internal or international disturbance or armed conflict,

Recalling also that the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, firmly declared that efforts to eradicate torture should, first and foremost, be concentrated on prevention and called for the early adoption of an optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, which is intended to establish a preventive system of regular visits to places of detention,[265]

Urging all Governments to promote the speedy and full implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[266] in particular the section relating to freedom from torture, in which it is stated that States should abrogate legislation leading to impunity for those responsible for grave violations of human rights, such as torture, and prosecute such violations, thereby providing a firm basis for the rule of law,[267]

Recalling its resolution 36/151 of 16 December 1981, in which it noted with deep concern that acts of torture took place in various countries, recognized the need to provide assistance to the victims in a purely humanitarian spirit and established the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture,

Recalling also the recommendation in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action that high priority should be given to providing the necessary resources to assist victims of torture and effective remedies for their physical, psychological and social rehabilitation, *inter alia*, through additional contributions to the Fund,[268]

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[253] Ibid., *1992, Supplement No. 2* (E/1992/22), chap. II, sect. A.

[254] Ibid., *1993, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1993/23 and Corr.2, 4 and 5), chap. II, sect. A.

[255] Ibid., *1994, Supplement No. 4* and corrigendum (E/1994/24 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[256] Ibid., *1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[257] Ibid., *1996, Supplement No. 3* (E/1996/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[258] Ibid., *1997, Supplement No. 3* (E/1997/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[259] Ibid., *1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[260] Ibid., *1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[261] A/54/327.

[262] Resolution 217 A (III).

[263] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[264] Resolution 3452 (XXX), annex.

[265] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. II, para. 61.

[266] Ibid., chap. III.

[267] Ibid., sect. II, paras. 54–61.

[268] Ibid., para. 59.

Noting with satisfaction the existence of a considerable international network of centres for the rehabilitation of victims of torture, which plays an important role in providing assistance to victims of torture, and the collaboration of the Fund with the centres,

Mindful of the proclamation by the General Assembly in its resolution 52/149 of 12 December 1997 of 26 June as the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture,

1. *Welcomes* the work of the Committee against Torture, and takes note of the report of the Committee,[269] submitted in accordance with article 24 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;

2. *Notes with appreciation* that one hundred and eighteen States have become parties to the Convention;

3. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention as a matter of priority;

4. *Invites* all States ratifying or acceding to the Convention and those States that are parties to the Convention and have not yet done so to consider joining the States parties that have already made the declarations provided for in articles 21 and 22 of the Convention and to consider the possibility of withdrawing their reservations to article 20;

5. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to notify the Secretary-General of their acceptance of the amendments to articles 17 and 18 of the Convention as soon as possible;

6. *Urges* States parties to comply strictly with their obligations under the Convention, including their obligation to submit reports in accordance with article 19 of the Convention, in view of the high number of reports not submitted, and invites States parties to incorporate a gender perspective and information concerning children and juveniles when submitting reports to the Committee;

7. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in conformity with her mandate established in General Assembly resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, to continue to provide, at the request of Governments, advisory services for the preparation of national reports to the Committee and for the prevention of torture, as well as technical assistance in the development, production and distribution of teaching material for this purpose;

8. *Urges* States parties to take fully into account the conclusions and recommendations made by the Committee after its consideration of their reports;

9. *Emphasizes* the obligation of States parties under article 10 of the Convention to ensure education and training for personnel who may be involved in the custody, interrogation or treatment of any individual subjected to any form of arrest, detention or imprisonment;

10. *Stresses*, in this context, that States must not punish personnel referred to in paragraph 9 above for not obeying orders to commit or conceal acts amounting to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

11. *Welcomes* the progress made by the inter-sessional open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights on the development of a draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and urges the working group to complete as soon as possible a final text for submission to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, for consideration and adoption;

12. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,[270] describing the overall trends and developments with regard to his mandate, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue to include in his recommendations proposals on the prevention and investigation of torture;

13. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur to continue to examine questions of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment directed against women, and conditions conducive to such torture, and to make appropriate recommendations for the prevention and redress of gender-specific forms of torture, including rape or any other form of sexual violence, and to exchange views with the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, with a view to enhancing further their effectiveness and mutual cooperation;

14. *Also invites* the Special Rapporteur to continue to consider questions relating to the torture of children and conditions conducive to such torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and to make appropriate recommendations for the prevention of such torture;

15. *Calls upon* all Governments to cooperate with and to assist the Special Rapporteur in the performance of his task, in particular by supplying all necessary information requested by him, to react appropriately and expeditiously to his urgent appeals and to give serious consideration to his requests to visit their countries, and urges them to enter into a constructive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur with respect to the follow-up to his recommendations;

16. *Approves* the methods of work employed by the Special Rapporteur, in particular with regard to urgent appeals, reiterates the need for him to be able to respond effectively to credible and reliable information that comes before him, invites him to continue to seek the views and comments of all concerned, in particular Member States, and expresses its appreciation for the discreet and independent way in which he continues to carry out his work;

17. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue to consider including in his report information on the follow-up by Governments to his recommendations, visits and communications, including progress made and problems encountered;

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[269] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 44* (A/54/44).

[270] A/54/426, annex.

18. *Stresses* the need for the continued regular exchange of views between the Committee, the Special Rapporteur and other relevant United Nations mechanisms and bodies, as well as for the pursuance of cooperation with relevant United Nations programmes, notably the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, with a view to enhancing further their effectiveness and cooperation on issues relating to torture, *inter alia*, by improving their coordination;

19. *Expresses its gratitude and appreciation* to the Governments, organizations and individuals that have already contributed to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture;

20. *Appeals* to all Governments and organizations to contribute annually to the Fund, if possible with a substantial increase in the level of contributions, so that consideration may be given to the ever-increasing demand for assistance;

21. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Board of Trustees of the Fund for the work it has accomplished;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to all Governments the appeals of the General Assembly for contributions to the Fund;

23. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to include the Fund on an annual basis among the programmes for which funds are pledged at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;

24. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to assist the Board of Trustees of the Fund in its appeal for contributions and in its efforts to make better known the existence of the Fund and the financial means currently available to it, as well as in its assessment of the global need for international funding of rehabilitation services for victims of torture and, in this effort, to make use of all existing possibilities, including the preparation, production and dissemination of information materials;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the provision of adequate staff and facilities for the bodies and mechanisms involved in combating torture and assisting victims of torture, commensurate with the strong support expressed by Member States for combating torture and assisting victims of torture;

26. *Invites* donor countries and recipient countries to consider including in their bilateral programmes and projects relating to the training of armed forces, security forces, prison and police personnel, as well as health-care personnel, matters relating to the protection of human rights and the prevention of torture and to keep in mind a gender perspective;

27. *Calls upon* all Governments, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other United Nations bodies and agencies, as well as relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to commemorate, on 26 June, the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-sixth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and a report on the operations of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for the Victims of Torture;

29. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-fifth session the reports of the Secretary-General, including the report on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, the report of the Committee against Torture and the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

RESOLUTION 54/157

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.1 and Corr.1)

54/157. International Covenants on Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/116 of 12 December 1997 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/9 of 3 April 1998,[271]

Mindful that the International Covenants on Human Rights[272] constitute the first all-embracing and legally binding international treaties in the field of human rights and, together with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[273] form the core of the International Bill of Human Rights,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General[274] on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[275]

Recalling the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and reaffirming that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt or excuse States from the promotion and protection of the other rights,

Recognizing the important role of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in examining the progress made by States parties in fulfilling the obligations undertaken in the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and in providing recommendations to States parties on their implementation,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of the International Covenants on Human Rights as major parts of international

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[271] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[272] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[273] Resolution 217 A (III).

[274] A/54/277 and Corr.1.

[275] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex, and resolution 44/128, annex.

efforts to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Strongly appeals* to all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as well as to accede to the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and to make the declaration provided for in article 41 of the Covenant;

3. *Invites* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to intensify systematic efforts to encourage States to become parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights and, through the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights, to assist such States, at their request, in ratifying or acceding to the Covenants and to the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the strictest compliance by States parties with their obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and, where applicable, the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

5. *Stresses* the importance of avoiding the erosion of human rights by derogation, and underlines the necessity of strict observance of the agreed conditions and procedures for derogation under article 4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, bearing in mind the need for States parties to provide the fullest possible information during states of emergency so that the justification for the appropriateness of measures taken in those circumstances can be assessed;

6. *Encourages* States parties to consider limiting the extent of any reservations they lodge to the International Covenants on Human Rights, to formulate any reservations as precisely and narrowly as possible and to ensure that no reservation is incompatible with the object and purpose of the relevant treaty or otherwise incompatible with international treaty law;

7. *Also encourages* States parties to review regularly any reservations made in respect of the provisions of the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights with a view to withdrawing them;

8. *Takes note with appreciation* of the annual report of the Human Rights Committee submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session,[276] and takes note of General Comments Nos. 25[277] and 26[278] adopted by the Committee;

9. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth and seventeenth sessions[279] and eighteenth and nineteenth sessions,[280] and takes note of General Comments Nos. 8,[281] 9,[282] 10,[283] 11[284] and 12[285] adopted by the Committee;

10. *Urges* States parties to fulfil in good time such reporting obligations under the International Covenants on Human Rights as may be requested and in their reports to make use of gender-disaggregated data;

11. *Stresses* the importance of taking fully into account a gender perspective in the implementation of the International Covenants on Human Rights at the national level, including in the national reports of States parties and in the work of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

12. *Urges* States parties to take duly into account, in implementing the provisions of the International Covenants on Human Rights, the observations made at the conclusion of the consideration of their reports by the Human Rights Committee and by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as well as the views adopted by the Human Rights Committee under the first Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

13. *Invites* States parties to give particular attention to the dissemination at the national level of the reports they have submitted to the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the summary records relating to the examination of those reports by the Committees and the observations made by the Committees at the conclusion of the consideration of the reports;

14. *Once again encourages* all Governments to publish the texts of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in as many local languages as possible and to distribute them and make them known as widely as possible in their territories;

15. *Invites* the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, when considering the reports of States parties, to continue to identify specific needs that might be addressed by United Nations departments, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, including through the advisory services and technical assistance programme of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

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[276] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/54/40).

[277] Ibid., *Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/51/40), vol. I, annex V.

[278] Ibid., *Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/53/40), vol. I, annex VII.

[279] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 2* (E/1998/22).

[280] Ibid., *1999, Supplement No. 2* (E/1999/22).

[281] Ibid., *1998, Supplement No. 2* (E/1998/22), annex V.

[282] Ibid., *1999, Supplement No. 2* (E/1999/22), annex IV.

[283] Ibid., annex V.

[284] E/C.12/1999/4.

[285] E/C.12/1999/5.

16. *Stresses* the need for improved coordination between relevant United Nations mechanisms and bodies in supporting States parties, upon their request, in implementing the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and encourages continued efforts in this direction;

17. *Invites* States to continue to contribute, with practical proposals and ideas, to the dialogue on ways of improving the functioning of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

18. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to strive for uniform standards in the implementation of the provisions of the International Covenants on Human Rights, and appeals to other bodies dealing with similar human rights questions to respect those uniform standards, as expressed in the general comments of the Committees;

19. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to assist States parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights in the preparation of their reports, including by convening seminars or workshops at the national level for the purpose of training government officials engaged in the preparation of such reports, and by exploring other possibilities available under the regular programme of advisory services in the field of human rights;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights effectively assists the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the implementation of their respective mandates, including by the provision of adequate Secretariat staff resources;

21. *Welcomes* the initiative by the Secretary-General, taking into account the suggestions of the Human Rights Committee, to take determined steps, in particular through the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, to give more publicity to the work of that Committee and, similarly, to the work of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions", a report on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, including all reservations and declarations.

RESOLUTION 54/158

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.1 and Corr.1)

54/158. International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming once more the permanent validity of the principles and norms set forth in the basic instruments regarding the international protection of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[286] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[287] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[288] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[289] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[290]

Bearing in mind the principles and norms established within the framework of the International Labour Organization and the importance of the work done in connection with migrant workers and members of their families in other specialized agencies and in various organs of the United Nations,

Reiterating that, despite the existence of an already established body of principles and norms, there is a need to make further efforts to improve the situation and to guarantee respect for the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers and members of their families,

Aware of the situation of migrant workers and members of their families and the marked increase in migratory movements that has occurred, especially in certain parts of the world,

Considering that, in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[291] all States are urged to guarantee the protection of the human rights of all migrant workers and members of their families,

Underlining the importance of the creation and promotion of conditions to foster greater harmony and tolerance between migrant workers and the rest of the society of the State in which they reside, with the aim of eliminating the growing manifestations of racism and xenophobia perpetrated in segments of many societies by individuals or groups against migrant workers,

Recalling its resolution 45/158 of 18 December 1990, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,

Bearing in mind that, in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, States are invited to consider the possibility of signing and ratifying the Convention at the earliest possible time,

Recalling that, in its resolution 53/137 of 9 December 1998, it requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-fourth session a report on the status of the Convention,

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[286] Resolution 217 A (III).

[287] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[288] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[289] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[290] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[291] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

1. *Expresses its deep concern* at the growing manifestations of racism, xenophobia and other forms of discrimination and inhuman or degrading treatment directed against migrant workers in different parts of the world;

2. *Welcomes* the signature or ratification of or accession to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families by some Member States;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, expresses the hope that it will enter into force at an early date, and notes that, pursuant to article 87 of the Convention, only eight ratifications or accessions are still needed for it to enter into force;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all the facilities and assistance necessary for the promotion of the Convention through the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights and the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights;

5. *Welcomes* the global campaign for the entry into force of the Convention, and invites the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify further their efforts with a view to disseminating information on and promoting understanding of the importance of the Convention;

6. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 1999/44 of 27 April 1999,[292] to appoint a Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants to examine ways and means to overcome the obstacles existing to the full and effective protection of the human rights of this vulnerable group;

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[293] and requests him to submit an updated report on the status of the Convention to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

8. *Decides* to consider the report of the Secretary-General at its fifty-fifth session under the sub-item entitled "Implementation of human rights instruments".

RESOLUTION 54/159

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)

54/159. Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance

The General Assembly,

Recalling that all States have pledged themselves, under the Charter of the United Nations, to promote and encourage universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Reaffirming that discrimination against human beings on the grounds of religion or belief constitutes an affront to human dignity and a disavowal of the principles of the Charter,

Recalling article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[294] and article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[295]

Reaffirming its resolution 36/55 of 25 November 1981, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

Emphasizing that the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief is far-reaching and profound and that it encompasses freedom of thought on all matters, personal conviction and the commitment to religion or belief, whether manifested individually or in community with others,

Reaffirming the call of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, for all Governments to take all appropriate measures in compliance with their international obligations and with due regard to their respective legal systems to counter intolerance and related violence based on religion or belief, including practices of discrimination against women and the desecration of religious sites, recognizing that every individual has the right to freedom of thought, conscience, expression and religion,[296]

Calling upon all Governments to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on religious intolerance to enable him to carry out his mandate fully,

Alarmed that serious instances of intolerance and discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief, including acts of violence, intimidation and coercion motivated by religious intolerance, occur in many parts of the world and threaten the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Deeply concerned that, as reported by the Special Rapporteur, the rights violated on religious grounds include the right to life, the right to physical integrity and to liberty and security of person, the right to freedom of expression, the right not to be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and the right not to be arbitrarily arrested or detained,[297]

Believing that further efforts are therefore required to promote and protect the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief and to eliminate all forms of hatred, intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief,

1. *Reaffirms* that freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief is a human right derived from the inherent dignity of the human person and guaranteed to all without discrimination;

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[292] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[293] A/54/346.

[294] Resolution 217 A (III).

[295] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[296] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. II, para. 22.

[297] E/CN.4/1994/79, para. 103.

2. *Urges* States to ensure that their constitutional and legal systems provide effective guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief, including the provision of effective remedies in cases where the right to freedom of religion or belief is violated;

3. *Also urges* States to ensure, in particular, that no one within their jurisdiction is, because of his or her religion or belief, deprived of the right to life or the right to liberty and security of person or subjected to torture or arbitrary arrest or detention;

4. *Further urges* States, in conformity with international standards of human rights, to take all necessary action to prevent such instances, to take all appropriate measures to combat hatred, intolerance and acts of violence, intimidation and coercion motivated by religious intolerance and to encourage, through the educational system and by other means, understanding, tolerance and respect in matters relating to freedom of religion or belief;

5. *Recognizes* that legislation alone is not enough to prevent violations of human rights, including the right to freedom of religion or belief;

6. *Emphasizes* that, as underlined by the Human Rights Committee, restrictions on the freedom to manifest religion or belief are permitted only if limitations are prescribed by law, are necessary to protect public safety, order, health or morals, or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others, and are applied in a manner that does not vitiate the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion;

7. *Urges* States to ensure that, in the course of their official duties, members of law enforcement bodies, civil servants, educators and other public officials respect different religions and beliefs and do not discriminate against persons professing other religions or beliefs;

8. *Calls upon* all States to recognize, as provided for in the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief, the right of all persons to worship or assemble in connection with a religion or belief and to establish and maintain places for those purposes;

9. *Expresses its grave concern* at any attack upon religious places, sites and shrines, and calls upon all States, in accordance with their national legislation and in conformity with international human rights standards, to exert the utmost efforts to ensure that such places, sites and shrines are fully respected and protected;

10. *Recognizes* that the exercise of tolerance and non-discrimination by persons and groups is necessary for the full realization of the aims of the Declaration;

11. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on religious intolerance,[298] who was appointed to examine incidents and governmental actions in all parts of the world that are incompatible with the provisions of the Declaration and to recommend remedial measures as appropriate, and encourages the continued efforts on the part of the Special Rapporteur;

12. *Notes* the request by the Special Rapporteur that his title be changed from Special Rapporteur on religious intolerance to Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, which will be considered further by the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-sixth session;

13. *Encourages* the Special Rapporteur to contribute effectively to the preparatory process for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance to be held in 2001 by transmitting to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights his recommendations on religious intolerance which have a bearing on the Conference;

14. *Encourages* Governments to give serious consideration to inviting the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries so as to enable him to fulfil his mandate even more effectively;

15. *Also encourages* Governments, when seeking the assistance of the United Nations Programme of Advisory Services and Technical Assistance in the Field of Human Rights, to consider, where appropriate, including requests for assistance in the field of the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion;

16. *Welcomes and encourages* the continuing efforts of non-governmental organizations and religious bodies and groups to promote the implementation and dissemination of the Declaration;

17. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue its consideration of measures to implement the Declaration;

18. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Special Rapporteur receives the necessary resources to enable him fully to discharge his mandate;

20. *Decides* to consider the question of the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance at its fifty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 54/160

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)

54/160. Human rights and cultural diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[299] and the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[300] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[301] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[302]

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[298] See A/54/386.

[299] Resolution 217 A (III).

[300] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[301] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[302] Resolution 44/25, annex.

Noting that numerous instruments within the United Nations system promote cultural diversity, as well as the conservation and development of culture, in particular the Declaration of the Principles of International Cultural Cooperation, proclaimed on 4 November 1966 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its fourteenth session,[303]

Welcoming the designation by the General Assembly, in its resolution 53/22 of 4 November 1998, of the year 2001 as the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations,

Reaffirming that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recognizing that cultural diversity and the pursuit of cultural development by all peoples and nations are a source of mutual enrichment for the cultural life of humankind,

Considering that tolerance of cultural, ethnic and religious diversities is essential for peace, understanding and friendship among individuals and people of different cultures and nations of the world,

Recognizing in each culture a dignity and value which deserves recognition, respect and preservation, and convinced also that in their rich variety and diversity, and in the reciprocal influences they exert on one another, all cultures form part of the common heritage belonging to all humankind,

Convinced that the promotion of cultural pluralism, tolerance towards and dialogue among various cultures and civilizations would contribute to the efforts of all peoples and nations to enrich their cultures and traditions by engaging in a mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and intellectual, moral and material achievements,

1. *Affirms* the importance for all peoples and nations to hold, develop and preserve their cultural heritage and traditions in a national and international atmosphere of peace, tolerance and mutual respect;

2. *Recognizes* that respect for cultural diversity and the cultural rights of all enhances cultural pluralism, contributing to a wider exchange of knowledge and understanding of cultural background, advancing the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights across the world and fostering stable friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;

3. *Emphasizes* that the promotion of cultural pluralism and tolerance at the national and international levels is important for enhancing respect for cultural rights and cultural diversity;

4. *Calls upon* States, international organizations and United Nations agencies, and invites civil society, including non-governmental organizations, for the purpose of advancing the objectives of peace, development and universally accepted human rights, to recognize and respect cultural diversity;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the light of the present resolution, to prepare a report on human rights and cultural diversity, taking into account the views of Member States, relevant United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations, and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

6. *Decides* to continue consideration of this question at its fifty-fifth session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

RESOLUTION 54/161

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)

54/161. United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004, and public information activities in the field of human rights

The General Assembly,

Guided by the fundamental and universal principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[304] article 26 of which states that "education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms", and the provisions of other international human rights instruments, such as those of article 13 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[305] article 10 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[306] article 7 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[307] article 29 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[308] article 10 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[309] and paragraphs 78 to 82 of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[310] which reflect the aims of the aforementioned article,

Recalling the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights concerning the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004, public information activities in the field of human rights, including the World Public Information Campaign on

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[303] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Fourteenth Session, Paris, 1966, Resolutions*.

[304] Resolution 217 A (III).

[305] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[306] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[307] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[308] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[309] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[310] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

Human Rights, the project of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization entitled "Towards a culture of peace", and the implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,

Believing that the World Public Information Campaign is a valuable complement to the activities of the United Nations aimed at the further promotion and protection of human rights, and recalling the importance attached by the World Conference on Human Rights to human rights education and information,

Convinced that every woman, man and child, in order to realize their full human potential, must be made aware of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Convinced also that human rights education should involve more than the provision of information and should constitute a comprehensive, lifelong process by which people at all levels of development and in all societies learn respect for the dignity of others and the means and methods of ensuring that respect,

Recognizing that human rights education and information are essential to the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms and that carefully designed training, dissemination and information programmes can have a catalytic effect on national, regional and international initiatives to promote and protect human rights and prevent human rights violations,

Convinced that human rights education and information contribute to a holistic concept of development consistent with the dignity of women and men of all ages, which takes into account particularly vulnerable segments of society such as children, young persons, older persons, indigenous people, minorities, the rural and urban poor, migrant workers, refugees, persons with the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome and disabled persons,

Taking into account the efforts to promote human rights education made by educators and non-governmental organizations in all parts of the world, as well as by intergovernmental organizations, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Programme,

Recognizing the invaluable and creative role that non-governmental and community-based organizations can play in disseminating public information and engaging in human rights education, especially at the grass-roots level and in remote and rural communities,

Aware of the potential supportive role of the private sector in implementing at all levels of society the Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004,[311] and the World Public Information Campaign, through creative initiatives and financial support for governmental and non-governmental activities,

Convinced that the effectiveness of existing human rights education and public information activities would be enhanced by better coordination and cooperation at the national, regional and international levels,

Recalling that it is within the responsibility of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to coordinate relevant United Nations education and public information programmes in the field of human rights,

Taking note with appreciation of the increased efforts undertaken so far by the Office of the High Commissioner to disseminate human rights information through its web site[312] and its publications and external relations programmes,

Welcoming the initiative of the Office of the High Commissioner to develop further the project entitled "Assisting Communities Together", launched in 1998, supported by voluntary funds and designed to provide small grants to grass-roots and local organizations carrying out practical human rights activities,

Recalling that, according to the Plan of Action, in 2000 a mid-term global evaluation of progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the Decade shall be undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner, in cooperation with all other principal actors in the Decade,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004, and public information activities in the field of human rights,[313] including the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights;

2. *Welcomes* the steps taken by Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to implement the Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004,[311] and to develop public information activities in the field of human rights, as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General;

3. *Urges* all Governments to contribute further to the implementation of the Plan of Action, in particular by establishing, in accordance with national conditions, broadly representative national committees for human rights education responsible for the development of comprehensive, effective and sustainable national plans of action for human rights education and information, taking into consideration the guidelines for national plans of action for human rights education developed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights[314] within the framework of the Decade;

4. *Urges* Governments to encourage, support and involve national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in the implementation of their national plans of action;

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[311] A/51/506/Add.1, appendix.

[312] www.unhchr.ch.

[313] A/54/399 and Add.1.

[314] A/52/469/Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1.

5. *Encourages* Governments to consider, within the national plans of action mentioned in paragraphs 3 and 4 above, the establishment of public access human rights resource and training centres capable of engaging in research, the gender-sensitive training of trainers, the preparation, collection, translation and dissemination of human rights education and training materials, the organization of courses, conferences, workshops and public information campaigns and assistance in the implementation of internationally sponsored technical cooperation projects for human rights education and public information;

6. *Encourages* States, where such national public access human rights resource and training centres already exist, to strengthen their capacity to support human rights education and public information programmes at the international, national, regional and local levels;

7. *Calls upon* Governments, in accordance with national conditions, to accord priority to the dissemination, in the relevant national and local languages, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[304] the International Covenants on Human Rights[305] and other human rights instruments, human rights materials and training manuals, as well as reports of States parties under international human rights treaties, and to provide information and education in those languages on the practical ways in which national and international institutions and procedures may be utilized to ensure the effective implementation of those instruments;

8. *Encourages* Governments to support further, through voluntary contributions, the education and public information efforts undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner within the framework of the Plan of Action;

9. *Requests* the High Commissioner to continue to coordinate and harmonize human rights education and information strategies within the United Nations system, including the implementation of the Plan of Action, and to ensure maximum effectiveness and efficiency in the use, processing, management and distribution of human rights information and educational materials, including through electronic means;

10. *Encourages* Governments to contribute to the further development of the web site of the Office of the High Commissioner,[312] in particular with respect to the dissemination of human rights education materials and tools, and to continue and expand the publications and external relations programmes of the Office;

11. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to support national capacities for human rights education and information through its technical cooperation programme in the field of human rights, including the organization of training courses and the development of targeted training materials for professional audiences, as well as the dissemination of human rights information materials as a component of technical cooperation projects;

12. *Urges* the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to continue to utilize United Nations information centres for the timely dissemination, within their designated areas of activity, of basic information, reference and audio-visual materials on human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the reports of States parties under international human rights instruments and, to this end, to ensure that the information centres are supplied with adequate quantities of those materials;

13. *Stresses* the need for close collaboration between the Office of the High Commissioner and the Department of Public Information in the implementation of the Plan of Action and the World Public Information Campaign, and the need to harmonize their activities with those of other international organizations such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization with regard to its project entitled "Towards a culture of peace" and the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations with regard to the dissemination of information on international humanitarian law;

14. *Invites* the specialized agencies and relevant United Nations programmes and funds to contribute, within their respective spheres of competence, to the implementation of the Plan of Action and the World Public Information Campaign and to cooperate with the Office of the High Commissioner in that regard;

15. *Encourages* the human rights treaty bodies, when examining reports of States parties, to place emphasis on obligations of States parties in the area of human rights education and information and to reflect this emphasis in their concluding observations;

16. *Calls upon* international, national and regional non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental organizations, in particular those concerned with women, labour, development, food, housing, education, health care and the environment, as well as all other social justice groups, human rights advocates, educators, religious organizations and the media, to undertake specific activities of formal, non-formal and informal education, including cultural events, alone and in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner, in implementing the Plan of Action;

17. *Urges* Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the mid-term global evaluation of progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the Decade to be undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner in 2000, by providing appropriate information on steps taken in this regard;

18. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue implementation of the "Assisting Communities Together" project and to consider other appropriate ways and means to support human rights education activities, including those undertaken by non-governmental organizations;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through the High Commissioner, to bring the present resolution to the attention of all members of the international community and of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with human rights education and public information, and to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session the mid-term global evaluation of progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the Decade for consideration under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 54/162

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)

54/162. Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/135 of 18 December 1992, by which it adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities, and its subsequent resolutions thereon,

Considering that the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities contribute to political and social stability and peace and enrich the cultural heritage of society as a whole in the States in which such persons live,

Concerned by the frequency and severity of disputes and conflicts concerning minorities in many countries and their often tragic consequences, and concerned also that persons belonging to minorities are particularly vulnerable to displacement through, *inter alia*, population transfers, refugee flows and forced relocation,

Acknowledging that the United Nations has an increasingly important role to play regarding the protection of minorities by, *inter alia*, taking due account of and giving effect to the Declaration,

Noting that the Working Group on Minorities of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights[315] of the Commission on Human Rights held its fourth and fifth sessions from 25 to 29 May 1998[316] and 25 to 31 May 1999,[317] respectively,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[318]

2. *Reaffirms* the obligation of States to ensure that persons belonging to minorities may exercise fully and effectively all human rights and fundamental freedoms without any discrimination and in full equality before the law, in accordance with the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities;

3. *Urges* States and the international community to promote and protect the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, as set out in the Declaration, including through the facilitation of their participation in all aspects of the political, economic, social, religious and cultural life of society and in the economic progress and development of their country;

4. *Urges* States to take, as appropriate, all the necessary constitutional, legislative, administrative and other measures to promote and give effect to the Declaration;

5. *Recognizes* that respect for human rights and the promotion of understanding and tolerance by Governments as well as between and among minorities are central to the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to minorities;

6. *Appeals* to States to make bilateral and multilateral efforts, as appropriate, in order to protect the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities in their countries, in accordance with the Declaration;

7. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to make available, at the request of Governments concerned, qualified expertise on minority issues, including the prevention and resolution of disputes, to assist in existing or potential situations involving minorities;

8. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to promote, within her mandate, the implementation of the Declaration and to continue to engage in a dialogue with Governments concerned for that purpose;

9. *Requests* the High Commissioner to continue her efforts to improve the coordination and cooperation among United Nations programmes and agencies on activities related to the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to minorities and to take the work of relevant regional organizations active in the field of human rights into account in her endeavours;

10. *Calls upon* the High Commissioner to resume inter-agency consultations with United Nations programmes and agencies on minority issues, and urges those programmes and agencies to contribute actively to this process;

11. *Encourages* intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to contribute to the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

12. *Calls upon* the Working Group on Minorities of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights of the Commission on Human Rights to implement further its mandate with the involvement of a wide range of participants;

13. *Invites* the High Commissioner to seek voluntary contributions to facilitate the effective participation, including through training seminars, in the work of the Working Group on Minorities of representatives of non-governmental organizations and persons belonging to minorities, in particular those from developing countries;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including on good practices in the fields of education and the effective participation of minorities in decision-making processes;

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[315] The Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities was renamed the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 1999/256 of 27 July 1999.

[316] E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/18.

[317] E/CN.4/Sub.2/1999/21.

[318] A/54/303.

15. *Decides* to continue consideration of this question at its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 54/163

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)

54/163. Human rights in the administration of justice

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the principles embodied in articles 3, 5, 8, 9 and 10 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[319] and the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols thereto,[320] in particular article 6 of the Covenant, which, *inter alia*, states that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life and prohibits the imposition of the death penalty for crimes committed by persons below eighteen years of age, and article 10, which provides that all persons deprived of their liberty shall be treated with humanity and with respect for the inherent dignity of the human person,

Bearing in mind also the relevant provisions of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[321] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[322] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[323]

Recalling in particular article 37 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, according to which every child deprived of liberty shall be treated in a manner which takes into account the needs of persons of his or her age,

Mindful of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[324] in particular of the obligation of States to treat men and women equally in all stages of procedures in courts and tribunals,

Calling attention to the numerous international standards in the field of the administration of justice,

Aware of the need for special vigilance with regard to the vulnerable situation of children and juveniles, as well as women and girls, in detention,

Recalling the Guidelines for Action on Children in the Criminal Justice System[325] and the establishment of a coordination panel on technical advice and assistance in juvenile justice,

Emphasizing that the right to access to justice as contained in applicable international human rights instruments forms an important basis for strengthening the rule of law through the administration of justice,

Mindful of the importance of establishing the rule of law and promoting human rights in the administration of justice, in particular in post-conflict situations, as a crucial contribution to building peace and justice,

Recalling its resolution 52/124 of 12 December 1997, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/39 of 17 April 1998[326] and Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/28 of 28 July 1999 on the administration of juvenile justice,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of the full and effective implementation of all United Nations standards on human rights in the administration of justice;

2. *Reiterates its call* to all Member States to spare no effort in providing for effective legislative mechanisms and procedures, as well as adequate resources, to ensure the full implementation of those standards;

3. *Invites* Governments to provide training, including gender-sensitive training, in human rights in the administration of justice, including juvenile justice, to all judges, lawyers, prosecutors, social workers, immigration and police officers, and other professionals concerned, including personnel deployed in international field presences;

4. *Stresses* the special need for national capacity-building in the field of the administration of justice in post-conflict situations, in particular through reform of the judiciary, the police and the penal system;

5. *Invites* States to make use of technical assistance offered by the relevant United Nations programmes in order to strengthen national capacities and infrastructures in the field of the administration of justice;

6. *Invites* the international community to respond favourably to requests for financial and technical assistance for the enhancement and strengthening of the administration of justice;

7. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and its subsidiary bodies, including special rapporteurs, special representatives and working groups, to continue to give special attention to questions relating to the effective promotion of human rights in the administration of justice and to provide, where appropriate, specific recommendations in this regard, including proposals for measures to provide advisory services and technical assistance;

8. *Notes* the increased attention paid to the issue of juvenile justice by the High Commissioner, and encourages further activities, within her mandate, in this regard;

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[319] Resolution 217 A (III).

[320] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex, and resolution 44/128, annex.

[321] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[322] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[323] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[324] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[325] Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/30, annex.

[326] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

9. *Encourages* the regional commissions, the specialized agencies and United Nations institutes in the areas of human rights and crime prevention and criminal justice, and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including national professional associations concerned with promoting United Nations standards in this field, to continue to develop their activities in promoting human rights in the administration of justice;

10. *Calls upon* the coordination panel on technical advice and assistance in juvenile justice to increase cooperation among the partners involved, to share information and pool their capacities and interests in order to increase the effectiveness of programme implementation;

11. *Invites* the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to coordinate closely their activities relating to the administration of justice;

12. *Underlines* the importance of rebuilding and strengthening structures for the administration of justice and respect for the rule of law and human rights in post-conflict situations, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure system-wide coordination and coherence of programmes and activities of the relevant parts of the United Nations system in the field of the administration of justice in post-conflict situations, including assistance provided through United Nations field presences;

13. *Decides* to consider the question of human rights in the administration of justice at its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 54/164

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 106 to none, with 58 abstentions,[327] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)

54/164. Human rights and terrorism

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[328] the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations[329] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[330]

Recalling the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[331]

Recalling also the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[332] in which the Conference reaffirmed that terrorism is indeed aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy,

Recalling further its resolutions 48/122 of 20 December 1993, 49/185 of 23 December 1994, 50/186 of 22 December 1995 and 52/133 of 12 December 1997,

Recalling in particular its resolution 52/133, in which it requested the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the implications of terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, for the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling previous resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights, taking note, in particular, of resolution 1999/27 of 26 April 1999,[333] and recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights,[334]

Alarmed that acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations aimed at the destruction of human rights have continued despite national and international efforts,

Bearing in mind that the essential and most basic human right is the right to life,

Bearing in mind also that terrorism creates an environment that destroys the right of people to live in freedom from fear,

Reiterating that all States have an obligation to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms and that every individual should strive to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance,

Seriously concerned about the gross violations of human rights perpetrated by terrorist groups,

Profoundly deploring the increasing number of innocent persons, including women, children and the elderly, killed, massacred and maimed by terrorists in indiscriminate and random acts of violence and terror, which cannot be justified under any circumstances,

Noting with great concern the growing connection between the terrorist groups and other criminal organizations engaged in the illegal traffic in arms and drugs at the national and international levels, as well as the consequent commission of serious crimes such as murder, extortion, kidnapping, assault, the taking of hostages and robbery,

Emphasizing the importance of Member States taking appropriate steps to deny safe haven to those who plan, finance or commit terrorist acts, by ensuring their apprehension and prosecution or extradition,

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[327] For details, see annex II.

[328] Resolution 217 A (III).

[329] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[330] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[331] See resolution 50/6.

[332] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[333] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[334] The Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities was renamed the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 1999/256 of 27 July 1999.

Mindful of the need to protect the human rights of and guarantees for the individual in accordance with the relevant human rights principles and instruments, in particular the right to life,

Reaffirming that all measures to counter terrorism must be in strict conformity with the relevant provisions of international law including international human rights standards,

1. *Expresses its solidarity* with the victims of terrorism;

2. *Condemns* the violations of the right to live free from fear and of the right to life, liberty and security;

3. *Reiterates its unequivocal condemnation* of the acts, methods and practices of terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, as activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, threatening the territorial integrity and security of States, destabilizing legitimately constituted Governments, undermining pluralistic civil society and having adverse consequences for the economic and social development of States;

4. *Calls upon* States to take all necessary and effective measures in accordance with relevant provisions of international law, including international human rights standards, to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomever committed;

5. *Urges* the international community to enhance cooperation at the regional and international levels in the fight against terrorism, in accordance with relevant international instruments, including those relating to human rights, with the aim of its eradication;

6. *Condemns* the incitement of ethnic hatred, violence and terrorism;

7. *Commends* those Governments that have communicated their views on the implications of terrorism in response to the note verbale by the Secretary-General dated 16 August 1999;

8. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General,[335] and requests him to continue to seek the views of Member States on the implications of terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, for the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, with a view to incorporating them in his report;

9. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 54/165

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 99 to 2, with 64 abstentions,[336] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)

54/165. Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and expressing in particular the need to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[337] as well as the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[338]

Recalling also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[339] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[339]

Reaffirming the Declaration on the Right to Development, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986,

Recognizing that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Realizing that globalization affects all countries differently and makes them more susceptible to external developments, positive as well as negative, including in the field of human rights,

Realizing also that globalization is not merely an economic process, but also has social, political, environmental, cultural and legal dimensions which have an impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Recognizing that multilateral mechanisms have a unique role to play in meeting the challenges and taking the opportunities presented by globalization,

Noting that human beings strive for a world that is respectful of cultures, identities and human rights and that, in that regard, they work to ensure that all activities, including those affected by globalization, are consistent with those aims,

1. *Recognizes* that, while globalization, by its impact on, *inter alia*, the role of the State, may affect human rights, the promotion and protection of all human rights is, first and foremost, the responsibility of the State;

2. *Underlines*, therefore, the need to analyse the consequences of globalization for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

3. *Takes note* of the request by the Commission on Human Rights to the Subcommission on the Promotion and

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[335] A/54/439.

[336] For details, see annex II.

[337] Resolution 217 A (III).

[338] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[339] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Protection of Human Rights[340] to undertake a study, based on the reports of the treaty bodies, special rapporteurs, independent experts and working groups of the Commission, on the issue of globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights, for the consideration of the Commission at its fifty-seventh session;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking into account the different views of Member States, to submit a comprehensive report on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 54/166

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)

54/166. Protection of migrants

The General Assembly,

Considering that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[341] proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, in particular as to race, colour or national origin,

Reaffirming the provisions concerning migrants adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights,[342] the International Conference on Population and Development,[343] the World Summit for Social Development[344] and the Fourth World Conference on Women,[345]

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/44 of 27 April 1999 on the human rights of migrants,[346] and of its decision to appoint a Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants,

Recalling its resolution 40/144 of 13 December 1985, by which it approved the Declaration on the Human Rights of Individuals Who are not Nationals of the Country in which They Live,

Bearing in mind the situation of vulnerability in which migrants frequently find themselves, owing, *inter alia*, to their absence from their State of origin and to the difficulties they encounter because of differences of language, custom and culture, as well as the economic and social difficulties and obstacles for the return to their States of origin of migrants who are non-documented or in an irregular situation,

Deeply concerned at the manifestations of violence, racism, xenophobia and other forms of discrimination and inhuman and degrading treatment against migrants, especially women and children, in different parts of the world,

Encouraged by the increasing interest of the international community in the effective and full protection of the human rights of all migrants, and underlining the need to make further efforts to ensure respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants,

Taking note with appreciation of the recommendations on strengthening the promotion, protection and implementation of the human rights of migrants of the working group of intergovernmental experts on the human rights of migrants[347] established by the Commission on Human Rights,

Noting the efforts made by States to penalize the international trafficking of migrants and to protect the victims of this illegal activity,

Taking note of the decisions of the relevant international juridical bodies on questions relating to migrants, in particular advisory opinion OC-16/99, issued by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on 1 October 1999, regarding the right to information about consular assistance within the framework of due process guarantees,

1. *Requests* all Member States, in conformity with their respective constitutional systems, effectively to promote and protect the human rights of all migrants, in conformity with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[341] and the international instruments to which they are party, which may include the International Covenants on Human Rights,[348] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[349] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[350] the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[351] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[352] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[353] and other applicable international human rights instruments;

2. *Strongly condemns* all forms of racial discrimination and xenophobia with regard to access to employment, vocational

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[340] The Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities was renamed the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 1999/256 of 27 July 1999.

[341] Resolution 217 A (III).

[342] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[343] See *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[344] See *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[345] See *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[346] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[347] E/CN.4/1999/80, paras. 102–124.

[348] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[349] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[350] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[351] Resolution 45/158, annex.

[352] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[353] Resolution 44/25, annex.

training, housing, schooling, health services and social services, as well as services intended for use by the public, and welcomes the active role played by governmental and non-governmental organizations in combating racism and assisting individual victims of racist acts, including migrant victims;

3. *Calls upon* all States to review and, where necessary, revise immigration policies with a view to eliminating all discriminatory policies and practices against migrants and to provide specialized training for government policy-making and law enforcement, immigration and other concerned officials, thus underlining the importance of effective action to create conditions that foster greater harmony and tolerance within societies;

4. *Reiterates* the need for all States to protect fully the universally recognized human rights of migrants, especially women and children, regardless of their legal status, and to provide humane treatment, in particular with regard to assistance and protection, including those under the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations,[154] regarding the right to receive consular assistance from the country of origin;

5. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission on Human Rights to appoint a Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants to examine ways and means to overcome the obstacles existing to the full and effective protection of the human rights of this vulnerable group, including obstacles and difficulties for the return of migrants who are non-documented or in an irregular situation, with the following functions:

(*a*) To request and receive information from all relevant sources, including migrants themselves, on violations of the human rights of migrants and their families;

(*b*) To formulate appropriate recommendations to prevent and remedy violations of the human rights of migrants, wherever they may occur;

(*c*) To promote the effective application of relevant international norms and standards on the issue;

(*d*) To recommend actions and measures applicable at the national, regional and international levels to eliminate violations of the human rights of migrants;

(*e*) To take into account a gender perspective when requesting and analysing information, as well as to give special attention to the occurrence of multiple discrimination and violence against migrant women;

6. *Requests* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the performance of the tasks and duties mandated and to furnish all information requested, including by reacting promptly to his/her urgent appeals;

7. *Encourages* Member States that have not yet done so to enact domestic criminal legislation to combat international trafficking of migrants, which should take into account, in particular, trafficking that endangers the lives of migrants or includes different forms of servitude or exploitation, such as any form of debt bondage, sexual or labour exploitation, and to strengthen international cooperation to combat such trafficking;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

RESOLUTION 54/167

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)

54/167. Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons

The General Assembly,

Deeply disturbed by the alarmingly high numbers of internally displaced persons throughout the world who receive inadequate protection and assistance, and conscious of the serious problem this is creating for the international community,

Conscious of the human rights and the humanitarian dimensions of the problem of internally displaced persons and the responsibilities this poses for States and the international community to explore methods and means better to address their protection and assistance needs,

Recalling the relevant norms of international human rights instruments, international humanitarian law and analogous refugee law, and emphasizing the need for their better implementation with regard to internally displaced persons,

Recalling also the emphasis in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[155] on the need to develop global strategies to address the problem of internal displacement,

Deploring practices of forced displacement, in particular ethnic cleansing, and their negative consequences for the enjoyment of fundamental human rights by large groups of populations,

Noting the progress made thus far by the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons in developing a legal framework, analysing institutional arrangements, undertaking dialogue with Governments and issuing a series of reports on particular country situations, together with proposals for remedial measures,

Welcoming the cooperation established between the Representative of the Secretary-General and the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, in particular the participation of the Representative of the Secretary-General in the meetings of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and its subsidiary bodies, and encouraging further strengthening of this collaboration in order to promote better assistance, protection and development strategies for internally displaced persons,

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[154] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

[155] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

Welcoming also the publication and the wide dissemination of the compilation and analysis of legal norms prepared by the Representative of the Secretary-General,[356] in particular the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,[357]

Recalling its resolution 52/130 of 12 December 1997,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons;[358]

2. *Commends* the Representative of the Secretary-General for the activities undertaken so far, despite the limited resources available to him, and for the catalytic role he continues to play in raising the level of consciousness about the plight of internally displaced persons;

3. *Encourages* the Representative of the Secretary-General to continue his analysis of the causes of internal displacement, the needs of those displaced, measures of prevention and ways to increase protection, assistance and solutions for internally displaced persons, including their safe return;

4. *Also encourages* the Representative of the Secretary-General to continue to pay specific attention in his review to the protection and assistance needs of women and children, bearing in mind the relevant strategic objective in the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women;[359]

5. *Welcomes* the study prepared by the Representative of the Secretary-General to promote a comprehensive strategy for better protection, assistance and development for internally displaced persons;[360]

6. *Notes* the development by the Representative of the Secretary-General, on the basis of his compilation and analysis of legal norms, of a comprehensive framework for the protection of internally displaced persons, in particular the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement;[357]

7. *Welcomes* the fact that the Representative of the Secretary-General has made use of the Guiding Principles in his dialogue with Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and requests him to continue his efforts in that regard;

8. *Notes with appreciation* that the United Nations agencies, regional and non-governmental organizations are making use of the Guiding Principles in their work, and encourages the further dissemination and application of the Guiding Principles;

9. *Calls upon* all Governments to continue to facilitate the activities of the Representative of the Secretary-General, in particular Governments with situations of internal displacement, encourages them to give serious consideration to inviting the representative to visit their countries so as to enable him to study and analyse more fully the issues involved, and thanks those Governments that have already done so;

10. *Invites* Governments to give due consideration, in dialogue with the Representative of the Secretary-General, to the recommendations and suggestions addressed to them, in accordance with his mandate, and to inform him of measures taken thereon;

11. *Urges* all relevant United Nations humanitarian assistance and development organizations concerned to enhance their collaboration with the Representative of the Secretary-General by developing frameworks of cooperation, especially through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, to promote protection, assistance and development for internally displaced persons and to provide all possible assistance and support to him;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts to establish a global information system on internally displaced persons, as advocated by the Representative of the Secretary-General, and encourages the members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to continue to collaborate in those efforts;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give all necessary assistance to the Representative to carry out his mandate effectively;

14. *Requests* the Representative of the Secretary-General to prepare, for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question of protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons at its fifty-sixth session.

RESOLUTION 54/168

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 91 to 59, with 10 abstentions,[361] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)

54/168. Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral processes

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purpose of the United Nations to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace,

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[356] E/CN.4/1998/53 and Add.1 and 2.

[357] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2.

[358] See A/54/409.

[359] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[360] Roberta Cohen and Francis M. Deng, *Masses in Flight: The Global Crisis of Internal Displacement* (Washington, D.C., Brookings Institution Press, 1998).

[361] For details, see annex II.

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling also its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, by which it approved the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling further the principle enshrined in Article 2, paragraph 7, of the Charter, which establishes that nothing contained in the Charter shall authorize the United Nations to intervene in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State or shall require the Members to submit such matters to settlement under the Charter,

Reaffirming the obligation of Member States to comply with the principles of the Charter and the resolutions of the United Nations regarding the right to self-determination, by virtue of which all peoples can freely determine, without external interference, their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

Recognizing that the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of any State should be respected in the holding of elections,

Recognizing also the richness and diversity of political systems and models for electoral processes in the world, based on national and regional particularities and various backgrounds,

Stressing the responsibility of States in ensuring ways and means to facilitate full and effective popular participation in electoral processes,

Welcoming the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[362] in which the Conference reaffirmed that the processes of promoting and protecting human rights should be conducted in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter,

1. *Reiterates* that, by virtue of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, all peoples have the right, freely and without external interference, to determine their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development and that every State has the duty to respect that right in accordance with the provisions of the Charter;

2. *Reaffirms* the right of peoples, without external interference, to determine methods and to establish institutions regarding electoral processes and that, consequently, States should ensure, in accordance with their constitutions and national legislation, the necessary mechanism and means to facilitate full and effective popular participation in those processes;

3. *Also reaffirms* that any activities that attempt, directly or indirectly, to interfere in the free development of national electoral processes, in particular in developing countries, or that are intended to sway the results of such processes, violate the spirit and letter of the principles established in the Charter and in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Further reaffirms* that electoral assistance to Member States should be provided by the United Nations at the request of interested States, or in special circumstances such as cases of decolonization, or in the context of regional or international peace processes;

5. *Strongly appeals* to all States to refrain from financing political parties or groups in other States and taking any other action that undermines their electoral processes;

6. *Condemns* any act of armed aggression or threat or use of force against peoples, their elected Governments or their legitimate leaders;

7. *Reaffirms* that all countries have the obligation under the Charter to respect the right of peoples to self-determination and to determine freely their political status and pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

8. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 54/169

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 95 to 1, with 66 abstentions,[363] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)

54/169. Respect for the right to universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Recalling the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[364]

Stressing that, as stated in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[365] family reunification of documented migrants is an important factor in international migration and that remittances by documented migrants to their countries of origin often constitute a very important source of foreign exchange and are instrumental in improving the well-being of relatives left behind,

Recalling its resolution 53/143 of 9 December 1998,

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[362] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[363] For details, see annex II.

[364] Resolution 217 A (III).

[365] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

1. *Once again calls upon* all States to guarantee the universally recognized freedom of travel to all foreign nationals legally residing in their territory;

2. *Reaffirms* that all Governments, in particular those of receiving countries, must recognize the vital importance of family reunification and promote its incorporation into national legislation in order to ensure protection of the unity of families of documented migrants;

3. *Calls upon* all States to allow, in conformity with international legislation, the free flow of financial remittances by foreign nationals residing in their territory to their relatives in the country of origin;

4. *Also calls upon* all States to refrain from enacting, and to repeal if it already exists, legislation intended as a coercive measure that discriminates against legal migrants, whether individuals or groups, by adversely affecting family reunification and the right to send financial remittances to relatives in the country of origin;

5. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 54/170

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)

54/170. Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 53/144 of 9 December 1998, by which it adopted the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, annexed to that resolution,

Reiterating the importance of the Declaration,

Convinced of the important role of the Commission on Human Rights in following up the Declaration,

Noting with deep concern that, in many countries, persons and organizations engaged in promoting and defending human rights and fundamental freedoms are facing threats, harassment and insecurity as a result of those activities,

1. *Calls upon* Governments, specialized agencies and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to submit, at the request of the Secretary-General, on the basis of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/66 of 28 April 1999,[366] proposals and ideas that should contribute substantially to further work on the implementation of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms;

2. *Calls upon* the Commission on Human Rights to consider at its fifty-sixth session the report to be prepared by the Secretary-General pursuant to Commission resolution 1999/66;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on measures to implement the Declaration;

4. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 54/171

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)

54/171. Situation of human rights in Cambodia

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[367] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[368]

Recalling the Agreement on a Comprehensive Political Settlement of the Cambodia Conflict, signed in Paris on 23 October 1991,[369] including part III thereof, relating to human rights,

Recalling also its resolution 53/145 of 9 December 1998, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/76 of 28 April 1999,[370] and recalling further previous relevant resolutions,

Recognizing that the tragic history of Cambodia requires special measures to assure the protection of the human rights of all people in Cambodia and the non-return to the policies and practices of the past, as stipulated in the Agreement signed in Paris on 23 October 1991,

Desiring that the international community continue to respond positively to assist efforts to investigate the tragic history of Cambodia, including responsibility for past international crimes, such as acts of genocide and crimes against humanity,

Bearing in mind the letter dated 15 March 1999 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council[371] and the report of the

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[366] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[367] Resolution 217 A (III).

[368] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[369] A/46/608–S/23177, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1991*, document S/23177.

[370] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[371] A/53/850–S/1999/231; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1999*, document S/1999/231.

Group of Experts appointed by the Secretary-General in response to the request by the Cambodian authorities for assistance in responding to past serious violations of Cambodian and international law,[372]

Recognizing the legitimate concern of the Government and people of Cambodia in the pursuit of internationally accepted principles of justice and of national reconciliation,

Recognizing also that accountability of individual perpetrators of grave human rights violations is one of the central elements of any effective remedy for victims of human rights violations and a key factor in ensuring a fair and equitable justice system and, ultimately, reconciliation and stability within a State,

Welcoming the continuing role of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the promotion and protection of human rights in Cambodia,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through his Special Representative for human rights in Cambodia, in collaboration with the office in Cambodia of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to assist the Government of Cambodia in ensuring the protection of the human rights of all people in Cambodia and to ensure adequate resources for the continued functioning of the operational presence in Cambodia of the Office of the High Commissioner and to enable the Special Representative to continue to fulfil his tasks expeditiously;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General,[373] and notes in particular the concerns of the Special Representative about the problem of impunity, the need to promote and protect the independence of the judiciary and to establish the rule of law and the need for the reform of police and the military;

3. *Welcomes* the agreement by the Government of Cambodia to extend the memorandum of understanding for the office at Phnom Penh of the High Commissioner until March 2002, enabling the office to continue its operations and to maintain its technical cooperation programmes, and encourages the Government to continue to cooperate with the office;

4. *Urges* the Government of Cambodia to continue to take the necessary measures to develop an independent, impartial and effective judicial system, including through the early adoption of the draft statute on magistrates, a penal code and a code on criminal procedures, and the reform of the administration of justice, and appeals to the international community to assist the Government to this end;

5. *Commends* the efforts by the Government of Cambodia with regard to the review and the stated commitment to the downsizing of the police and the military, urges the Government to take further measures to carry out effective reform aimed towards professional and impartial police and military forces, and invites the international community to assist the Government to this end;

6. *Also commends* the vital and valuable role played by non-governmental organizations in Cambodia, *inter alia*, in the development of civil society, and encourages the Government of Cambodia to continue to work with non-governmental organizations in efforts to strengthen and uphold human rights in Cambodia;

7. *Notes with interest* the activities undertaken by the governmental Cambodian Human Rights Committee, the National Assembly Commission on Human Rights and Reception of Complaints and the Senate Commission on Human Rights and Reception of Complaints, and welcomes preliminary efforts to establish an independent national human rights commission which should be based on international standards, such as the Paris principles,[374] and requests the Office of the High Commissioner to provide advice and technical assistance in these efforts;

8. *Expresses grave concern* about numerous instances of violations of human rights, including extrajudicial executions, torture, illegal arrests and detention, as detailed in the reports of the Special Representative, and notes some progress made by the Government of Cambodia in addressing these issues;

9. *Expresses serious concern* about the situation of impunity in Cambodia, commends the commitment and efforts of the Government of Cambodia to tackle this question, such as amending article 51 of the 1994 Law on Civil Servants, and calls upon the Government to take further measures, as a matter of priority, to investigate urgently and prosecute, in accordance with due process of law and international human rights standards, all those who have perpetrated violations of human rights;

10. *Reaffirms* that the most serious human rights violations in Cambodia in recent history have been committed by the Khmer Rouge, welcomes the final collapse of the Khmer Rouge, which has paved the way for the investigation and prosecution of its leaders, and takes note with interest of the steps taken by the Government of Cambodia to bring to justice the Khmer Rouge leaders most responsible for the most serious violations of human rights;

11. *Strongly appeals* to the Government of Cambodia to ensure that those most responsible for the most serious violations of human rights are brought to account in accordance with international standards of justice, fairness and due process of law, welcomes the efforts of the Secretariat and actors of the international community in assisting the Government to this end, and encourages the Government to continue to cooperate with the United Nations with a view to reaching an agreement;

12. *Reaffirms* that ensuring the security of persons and rights of association, assembly and expression remain matters of critical priority;

13. *Also reaffirms* the importance of the upcoming communal elections being conducted in a free and fair manner, and urges the Government of Cambodia to prepare for the communal elections accordingly;

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[372] Ibid., annex.

[373] A/54/353.

[374] See resolution 48/134, annex.

14. *Welcomes* the adoption of a five-year action plan by the Government of Cambodia, in particular by the Ministry of Women's Affairs and Veterans, as well as other measures taken by the Government to improve the status of women, and urges the Government to continue to take appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women, including in the political and public life of the country, to combat violence against women in all its forms and to take all steps to meet its obligations as a party to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[375] including seeking technical assistance;

15. *Commends* the recent initiatives of and the progress made by the Government of Cambodia towards ensuring adequate health conditions, calls upon the Government to continue to take further measures to achieve this goal, with emphasis on ensuring adequate health conditions for women and children and minority groups and on the problem of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, and encourages the international community to continue to support the Government to this end;

16. *Also commends* the continued efforts of the Government of Cambodia, together with non-governmental organizations and local authorities, to improve the quality of and access to education, and calls for further measures to be taken in order to ensure the right of Cambodian children to education, especially at the primary level, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[376] and requests the international community to provide assistance for the achievement of this goal;

17. *Welcomes* the five-year national plan against child sexual exploitation in Cambodia, and encourages the Government of Cambodia to ensure the necessary law enforcement and other measures in support of the plan in order to tackle the problem of child prostitution and trafficking in Cambodia;

18. *Notes with serious concern* the problem of child labour, calls upon the Government of Cambodia to ensure adequate health and safety conditions for children and to outlaw, in particular, the worst forms of child labour, and invites the International Labour Organization to continue to extend the necessary assistance in this regard;

19. *Also notes with serious concern* the prison conditions in Cambodia, notes with interest the recent adoption of the Proclamation on Administration of Prisons and Prison Procedures, commends the continued international assistance to improve the material conditions of detention, and calls upon the Government of Cambodia to take the further measures necessary to improve prison conditions, especially with regard to providing the minimum standard of food and health care;

20. *Condemns* the use of racist rhetoric and acts of violence against ethnic minorities, urges an end to racial violence and vilification, and urges the Government of Cambodia to take all steps to meet its obligations as a party to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[377] including through seeking technical assistance;

21. *Welcomes*, in particular, the recent actions taken by the Government of Cambodia to combat illicit logging which has seriously threatened the full enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights by many Cambodians, including indigenous people, expresses the hope that these efforts by the Government will continue, and notes with interest the current revision of the law on land;

22. *Also welcomes* the submission of the initial reports of Cambodia under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[168] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, asks the Government of Cambodia to follow up the recommendations made by the Human Rights Committee regarding the report submitted under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[378] calls upon the Government to meet its reporting obligations under all other international human rights instruments, and requests the office in Cambodia of the High Commissioner to continue to provide the necessary assistance in this regard;

23. *Expresses grave concern* at the devastating consequences and destabilizing effects of the use of anti-personnel landmines on Cambodian society, welcomes the ratification by Cambodia of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[379] in July 1999, encourages the Government of Cambodia to continue its support and efforts for the removal of those mines and for victim assistance and mine awareness programmes, and commends donor countries for their contributions and assistance to mine action;

24. *Expresses concern* about the high number of small arms in society and commends the efforts by the Government of Cambodia to control the spread of weapons;

25. *Notes with appreciation* the use by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Trust Fund for a Human Rights Education Programme in Cambodia to finance the programme of activities of the office in Cambodia of the High Commissioner, as defined in resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights, and invites Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, foundations and individuals to consider contributing to the Trust Fund;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the role and achievements of the Office of the High Commissioner in assisting the Government and the people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights and on the recommendations made by the Special Representative on matters within his mandate;

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[375] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[376] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[377] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[378] See CCPR/C/79/Add.108.

[379] See CD/1478.

27. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the situation of human rights in Cambodia at its fifty-fifth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 54/172

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 109 to 48, with 7 abstentions,[380] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)

54/172. Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/103 of 12 December 1996, 52/120 of 12 December 1997 and 53/141 of 9 December 1998, as well as Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/11 of 9 April 1998,[381]

Reaffirming the pertinent principles and provisions contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, in particular article 32 thereof, in which it declared that no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

Recalling the report submitted by the Secretary-General,[382] pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/45 of 3 March 1995,[383] and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 52/120,[384]

Recognizing the universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated character of all human rights, and in this regard reaffirming the right to development as an integral part of all human rights,

Recalling that the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, called upon States to refrain from any unilateral coercive measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that creates obstacles to trade relations among States and impedes the full realization of all human rights,[385]

Bearing in mind all the references to this question in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, adopted by the World Summit for Social Development on 12 March 1995,[386] the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action, adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995,[387] and the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements and the Habitat Agenda, adopted by the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) on 14 June 1996,[388]

Deeply concerned that, despite the recommendations adopted on this question by the General Assembly and recent major United Nations conferences and contrary to general international law and the Charter of the United Nations, unilateral coercive measures continue to be promulgated and implemented with all their extraterritorial effects, *inter alia*, on the economic and social development of targeted countries and peoples and individuals under the jurisdiction of other States,

Bearing in mind all the extraterritorial effects of any unilateral legislative, administrative and economic measures, policies and practices of a coercive nature against the development process and the enhancement of human rights in developing countries, which create obstacles to the full realization of all human rights,

Noting the continuing efforts of the Working Group on the Right to Development of the Commission on Human Rights, and reaffirming in particular its criteria according to which unilateral coercive measures are one of the obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,[389]

1. *Urges* all States to refrain from adopting or implementing any unilateral measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations, in particular those of a coercive nature with all their extraterritorial effects, which create obstacles to trade relations among States, thus impeding the full realization of the rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[390] and other international human rights instruments, in particular the right of individuals and peoples to development;

2. *Rejects* unilateral coercive measures with all their extraterritorial effects as tools for political or economic pressure against any country, in particular against developing countries, because of their negative effects on the realization of all the human rights of vast sectors of their populations, in particular children, women and the elderly;

3. *Calls upon* Member States that have initiated such measures to commit themselves to their obligations and responsibilities arising from the international human rights instruments to which they are party by revoking such measures at the earliest time possible;

4. *Reaffirms*, in this context, the right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine

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[380] For details, see annex II.

[381] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[382] E/CN.4/1996/45 and Add.1.

[383] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[384] A/53/293 and Add.1.

[385] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. I, para. 31.

[386] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[387] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[388] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[389] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[390] Resolution 217 A (III).

their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

5. *Urges* the Commission on Human Rights to take fully into account the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures, including the enactment of national laws and their extraterritorial application, in its task concerning the implementation of the right to development;

6. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in discharging her functions relating to the promotion, realization and protection of the right to development and bearing in mind the continuing impact of unilateral coercive measures on the population of developing countries, to give priority to the present resolution in her annual report to the General Assembly;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, to continue to collect their views and information on the implications and negative effects of unilateral coercive measures on their populations and to submit an analytical report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, highlighting the practical and preventive measures in this respect;

8. *Decides* to examine this question on a priority basis at its fifty-fifth session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

RESOLUTION 54/173

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 153 to none, with 11 abstentions,[391] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)

54/173. Strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, in particular resolutions 49/190 of 23 December 1994, 50/185 of 22 December 1995 and 52/129 of 12 December 1997,

Reaffirming that United Nations electoral assistance and support for the promotion of democratization are provided only at the specific request of the Member State concerned,

Acknowledging that United Nations electoral assistance has facilitated the holding of successful elections in several Member States, which has resulted in the orderly and non-violent assumption of office by elected officials, recognizing that elections can be free and fair only if the secrecy of the ballot is protected and elections are held free of coercion and intimidation, and underlining the importance of respect for the results of elections that have been verified as free and fair,

Noting with satisfaction that increasing numbers of Member States are using elections as peaceful means of national decision-making and confidence-building, thereby contributing to greater national peace and stability,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted on 10 December 1948,[392] in particular the right freely to choose representatives through periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/57 of 27 April 1999,[393] in which, *inter alia*, the Commission urged the continuation and expansion of activities carried out by the United Nations system, other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and Member States to promote and consolidate democracy within the framework of international cooperation and to build a democratic political culture through the observance of human rights, mobilization of civil society and other appropriate measures in support of democratic governance,

Recognizing the usefulness of a comprehensive and balanced approach in the activities carried out by the United Nations in this field in contributing to strengthening both democracy and all human rights within the country concerned,

Recognizing also the need for strengthening national capacity-building, electoral institutions and civic education in the requesting countries in order to consolidate and regularize the achievements of previous elections and support subsequent elections,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[394] in particular the recognition therein that assistance provided upon the request of Governments for the conduct of free and fair elections is of particular importance in the strengthening of a pluralistic civil society,

Welcoming the support provided by States to the electoral assistance activities of the United Nations, *inter alia*, through the provision of electoral experts, including electoral commission staff, and observers, as well as through contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for Electoral Observation,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the Electoral Assistance Division of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in collaboration with other electoral assistance organizations and United Nations agencies, to gather and make available through electronic means information on and for national election administrators, processes and institutions,

Noting the regional conference for Central Asian election administrators, held at Almaty, Kazakhstan, in November 1998, and the conference of the Global Electoral Organization Network, held at Ottawa in April 1999,

Welcoming the Fourth International Conference of the New or Restored Democracies, to be held at Cotonou, Benin, in December 2000, and calling upon the international community, including the United Nations Development Programme, the Electoral Assistance Division and other relevant organizations and institutions to render all possible assistance to ensure the successful outcome of the Conference,

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[391] For details, see annex II.

[392] Resolution 217 A (III).

[393] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[394] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations activities aimed at enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections,[395]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[395]

2. *Commends* the electoral assistance provided upon request to Member States by the United Nations, and requests that such assistance continue on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the evolving needs of requesting countries to improve and refine their electoral institutions and processes and with the guidelines on electoral assistance, recognizing that the fundamental responsibility of organizing free and fair elections lies with Governments;

3. *Requests* the Electoral Assistance Division of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in its role as coordinator of United Nations electoral assistance, to continue to inform Member States on a regular basis about the requests received, responses given to those requests and the nature of the assistance provided;

4. *Requests* that the United Nations continue its efforts to ensure, before undertaking to provide electoral assistance to a requesting State, that there is adequate time to organize and carry out an effective mission for providing such assistance, that conditions exist to allow a free and fair election and that provisions can be made for adequate and comprehensive reporting of the results of the mission;

5. *Recommends* that the Electoral Assistance Division continue to provide technical advice before and after elections and post-election assistance, as appropriate, based on needs assessment missions, to requesting States and electoral institutions, in order to contribute to the sustainability of their electoral processes and the consolidation of the democratization process;

6. *Also recommends* that United Nations electoral assistance be geared towards comprehensive observation of the entire time-span of the electoral process in instances where more than technical assistance is required by the requesting State;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take further steps to support States that request assistance by, *inter alia*, enabling the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in accordance with her mandate, to support democratization activities related to human rights concerns, including human rights training and education, assistance for human rights-related legislative reform, strengthening and reform of the judiciary, assistance to national human rights institutions and advisory services on treaty accession, reporting and international obligations as related to human rights;

8. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme to continue its commendable programmes of assistance for governance in cooperation with other relevant organizations and institutions, as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General,[395] in particular those for strengthening democratic institutions and participation and linkages between concerned sectors of society and Governments;

9. *Recalls* the establishment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Trust Fund for Electoral Observation, and calls upon Member States to consider contributing to the Fund;

10. *Reiterates* the importance of reinforced coordination within the United Nations system, including cooperation with all relevant departments within the Secretariat, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Volunteers, and encourages the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, as the focal point for United Nations electoral assistance activities, supported by the Electoral Assistance Division, to continue to develop new and more effective mechanisms for cooperation and to strengthen collaboration with those entities, including through an exchange of personnel when appropriate;

11. *Notes with appreciation* additional efforts being made to enhance cooperation with other international, governmental and non-governmental organizations in order to facilitate more comprehensive and need-specific responses to requests for electoral assistance, and expresses appreciation to those Member States, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations that have provided observers or technical experts in support of United Nations electoral assistance efforts;

12. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, through the Electoral Assistance Division, to respond to the evolving nature of requests for assistance and the growing need for specific types of medium-term expert assistance aimed at supporting and strengthening the existing capacity of the requesting Government, in particular through enhancing the capacity of national electoral institutions;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Electoral Assistance Division with adequate human and financial resources to allow it to carry out its mandate, and to continue to ensure that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights is able to respond, within its mandate and in close coordination with the Electoral Assistance Division, to the increasing number of requests from Member States for advisory services;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular on the status of requests from Member States for electoral assistance and verification, and on his efforts to enhance the Organization's support of the democratization process in Member States.

RESOLUTION 54/174

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)

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[395] A/54/491.

54/174. Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that among the purposes of the United Nations are those of developing friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and taking other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace, as well as achieving international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Desirous of achieving further progress in international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Considering that such international cooperation should be based on the principles embodied in international law, especially the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[196] the International Covenants on Human Rights[197] and other relevant instruments,

Deeply convinced that United Nations action in this field should be based not only on a profound understanding of the broad range of problems existing in all societies but also on full respect for the political, economic and social realities of each of them, in strict compliance with the purposes and principles of the Charter and for the basic purpose of promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through international cooperation,

Recalling its previous resolutions in this regard,

Reaffirming the importance of ensuring the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues, as affirmed in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[198]

Affirming the importance of the objectivity, independence and discretion of the special rapporteurs and representatives on thematic issues and on countries, as well as of the members of the working groups, in carrying out their mandates,

Underlining the obligation that Governments have to promote and protect human rights and to carry out the responsibilities that they have undertaken under international law, especially the Charter, as well as various international instruments in the field of human rights,

1. *Reiterates* that, by virtue of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, all peoples have the right freely to determine, without external interference, their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect that right within the provisions of the Charter, including respect for territorial integrity;

2. *Reaffirms* that it is a purpose of the United Nations and the task of all Member States, in cooperation with the Organization, to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to remain vigilant with regard to violations of human rights wherever they occur;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to base their activities for the promotion and protection of human rights, including the development of further international cooperation in this field, on the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[196] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[197] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[197] and other relevant international instruments, and to refrain from activities that are inconsistent with that international framework;

4. *Considers* that international cooperation in this field should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing mass and flagrant violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and to the strengthening of international peace and security;

5. *Reaffirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, as a legitimate concern of the world community, should be guided by the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity and should not be used for political ends;

6. *Requests* all human rights bodies within the United Nations system, as well as the special rapporteurs and representatives, independent experts and working groups, to take duly into account the contents of the present resolution in carrying out their mandates;

7. *Expresses its conviction* that an unbiased and fair approach to human rights issues contributes to the promotion of international cooperation as well as to the effective promotion, protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

8. *Stresses*, in this context, the continuing need for impartial and objective information on the political, economic and social situations and events of all countries;

9. *Invites* Member States to consider adopting, as appropriate, within the framework of their respective legal systems and in accordance with their obligations under international law, especially the Charter, and international human rights instruments, the measures that they may deem appropriate to achieve further progress in international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

10. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to take duly into account the present resolution and to consider further proposals for the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity;

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[196] Resolution 217 A (III).

[197] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[198] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

11. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[399] and further requests the Secretary-General to ask Member States to present practical proposals and ideas that should contribute to the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights, through the promotion of international cooperation based on the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity, and to submit a comprehensive report on this question to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

12. *Decides* to consider this matter at its fifty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 54/175

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 119 to 10, with 38 abstentions,[400] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)

54/175. The right to development

The General Assembly,

Guided by the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations, and expressing in particular the determination to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom as well as to employ international mechanisms for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

Recalling its previous resolutions and those of the Commission on Human Rights relating to the right to development, including its resolution 53/155 of 9 December 1998, and taking note of Commission resolution 1999/79 of 28 April 1999,[401]

Recalling also the Declaration on the Right to Development,[402] and reaffirming the importance of its full implementation,

Reaffirming that the right to development, as established in the Declaration on the Right to Development, is universal and inalienable, and re-emphasizing that its promotion, protection and realization are an integral part of the promotion and protection of all human rights,

Noting that the human person is the central subject of development and that development policy should therefore make the human being the main participant in and beneficiary of development,

Stressing the importance of creating an economic, political, social, cultural and legal environment that will enable people to achieve social development at the national and international levels,

Emphasizing the fact that the realization of the right to development requires effective and efficient development policies at the national level, as well as equitable economic relations and a favourable economic environment at the international level,

Noting that sanctions often have a serious negative impact on the development capacity and activity of target countries, as well as third States, undermining their full realization of the right to development,

Recognizing that countries interact with the global economy from vastly different levels of development, and realizing that globalization affects all countries differently and makes them more susceptible to external developments, positive and negative, *inter alia*, in the field of human rights, in particular in the realization of the right to development,

Stressing the need for coordination and cooperation throughout the United Nations system for a more effective promotion and realization of the right to development,

Emphasizing that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has an important role to play in the promotion, protection and realization of the right to development, including through enhanced cooperation with the relevant bodies of the United Nations system for this purpose,

Affirming that developed countries have a major responsibility in the context of growing interdependence to create and sustain a global economic environment that is favourable to accelerated and sustainable development,

Emphasizing that measures should be taken to ensure that human rights are not exploited as a means of conditionality for loans, aid or trade, which then unduly results in the imposition of particular policies on recipient countries, thereby negatively affecting the full enjoyment of the right to development by the peoples of such countries,

Recognizing the importance of undertaking appropriate economic policies and creating an environment that is favourable and conducive to the enhancement of the realization of the right to development at the national and international levels,

Emphasizing the importance of strengthening good governance through the building of more effective and accountable institutions for promoting sustained growth and enabling all people to benefit equally from development,

Expressing its concern that the Declaration on the Right to Development is insufficiently disseminated, and noting that it should be taken into account, as appropriate, in bilateral and multilateral cooperation programmes, national development strategies and policies and activities of international organizations,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 53/155,[403]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[403]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the right to development for every human person and all people in all countries, in particular the developing countries, as an integral part of their fundamental human rights, as well as the potential contribution

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[399] A/54/216.

[400] For details, see annex II.

[401] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[402] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[403] A/54/319.

that its realization could make to the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

3. *Also reaffirms* that democracy, development and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, are interdependent and mutually reinforcing, and in this context affirms that:

(*a*) The existence of widespread poverty inhibits the full and effective enjoyment of all human rights and renders democracy and popular participation fragile;

(*b*) For peace and stability to endure, national and international action and cooperation are required to promote a better life for all in larger freedom, a critical element of which is the eradication of poverty;

(*c*) The full realization of the right to development must be addressed within a global context through a constructive, dialogue-based approach, with objectivity, respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity, impartiality, non-selectivity and transparency as the guiding principles, taking into account the political, historical, social, religious and cultural characteristics of each country;

(*d*) Effective popular participation is an essential component of successful and sustainable development;

(*e*) The participation of developing countries in the international economic decision-making process needs to be broadened and strengthened through its democratization;

4. *Expresses deep concern* that the gap between the developed and developing countries remains unacceptably wide and that developing countries continue to face difficulties in participating in the globalization process and may risk being marginalized and effectively excluded from its benefits;

5. *Notes with concern* that the realization of the right to development of many developing countries has been negatively affected as a result of severe economic and financial crises in many regions of the world, and recognizes that the international trade and financial conditions that caused the crises persist;

6. *Calls upon* Member States to take, individually and collectively, all relevant measures and policies to prevent the marginalization of the weak or vulnerable economies of developing countries and of countries with economies in transition and to enable them to participate fully in globalization and liberalization with a view to their full integration into the world economy;

7. *Calls upon* States to refrain from taking any unilateral measures that are not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations and that create obstacles to trade relations among States and impede the full realization of all human rights, including the right to development;

8. *Urges* States to eliminate all obstacles to development at all levels, *inter alia*, by pursuing the promotion and protection of economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights and implementing comprehensive development programmes at the national level, integrating those rights into development activities and promoting effective international cooperation;

9. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation is a necessity deriving from the recognized mutual interest of all countries and, therefore, that such cooperation should be strengthened in order to support the efforts of developing countries to solve their social and economic problems and to fulfil their obligations to promote and protect all human rights;

10. *Calls upon* the international community to address the deepening technological, financial and productive gaps between the developed and some developing countries, and among some developing countries themselves, as well as the widening inequalities between the rich and the poor;

11. *Affirms* the need to apply a gender perspective in the implementation of the right to development, *inter alia*, by ensuring that women play an active role in the development process, and emphasizes that the empowerment of women and their full participation on a basis of equality in all spheres of society is fundamental for development;

12. *Reaffirms* that, in the full realization of the right to development, *inter alia*:

(*a*) The rights to food and clean water are fundamental human rights and their promotion constitutes a moral imperative both for national Governments and for the international community;

(*b*) The right to shelter is a basic human right, and in this regard the Assembly emphasizes the urgent need for national Governments and the international community to develop urgently, where necessary, and implement national and international strategies to provide this right;

(*c*) Health is essential for sustainable development, and the Assembly calls upon all Governments to take reasonable legislative and other measures within their available resources to achieve the progressive realization of the right to health-care services and urges the international community to support the efforts of Governments in this regard;

(*d*) Education is also an essential factor for the political, social, cultural and economic development of all people, and the Assembly recognizes that science and technology are important for ensuring growing levels of knowledge and must be put to use in the service of education;

13. *Recommends* proper consideration of the humanitarian effects of sanctions, in particular on women and children, which undermine and affect the right to development, with a view to minimizing those effects;

14. *Stresses* the need for the Secretary-General to continue to give high priority to the right to development, and urges all States to promote further the right to development, as a vital element in a balanced human rights programme;

15. *Welcomes* the high priority assigned by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to activities relating to the right to development, and urges the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to implement Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/72 of 22 April 1998;[404]

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[404] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

16. *Invites* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to follow and review progress made in the promotion and implementation of the right to development and to submit annual reports to the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights and to provide interim reports to the open-ended working group and the independent expert on the right to development containing details on:

(*a*) The activities of her Office relating to the implementation of the right to development, as contained in her mandate;

(*b*) The implementation of resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights with regard to the right to development;

(*c*) The coordination among the relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, in the implementation of relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights in this regard;

17. *Notes* the efforts undertaken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, within its mandate, with relevant entities of the United Nations system to promote the realization of the right to development, and stresses the need for the Office of the High Commissioner to keep Governments fully informed of and involve them in those initiatives, as appropriate;

18. *Calls upon* Member States and the Office of the High Commissioner to ensure that the open-ended working group on the right to development convenes its first session, as a matter of urgency, no later than 17 December 1999;

19. *Urges* Member States, the Secretary-General and the United Nations system, in particular the Office of the High Commissioner, fully to support the follow-up mechanism established for the implementation of the right to development;

20. *Reaffirms* the need for the Office of the High Commissioner to take appropriate measures aimed at promoting universal public awareness of the right to development through, *inter alia*, the dissemination of the Declaration on the Right to Development;

21. *Invites* the open-ended working group, *inter alia*, to consider the question of elaborating a convention on the right to development;

22. *Calls upon* the independent expert on the right to development to submit comprehensive reports to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session and the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-sixth session on, *inter alia*, the effects of poverty, structural adjustment, globalization, financial and trade liberalization and deregulation on the prospects of enjoyment of the right to development in developing countries;

23. *Invites* the open-ended working group to take note of the deliberations on the right to development held during the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly;

24. *Takes note* of the report of the independent expert on the right to development,[405] and encourages closer coordination with studies undertaken by other relevant experts established under the auspices of the Commission on Human Rights;

25. *Recognizes* the vital role of civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the implementation of the right to development, and in this regard encourages Member States and the United Nations system to foster partnerships and strengthen cooperation at the national level with civil society, as appropriate;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to inform the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly of the activities of the organizations, funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system relating to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development, as well as obstacles identified in the realization of the right to development;

27. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-sixth session a comprehensive report on the right to development, including obstacles identified in the realization of that right;

28. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-fifth session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches to improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

RESOLUTION 54/176

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)

54/176. National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights concerning national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Welcoming the rapidly growing interest throughout the world in the creation and strengthening of independent, pluralistic national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Convinced of the important role national institutions play and will continue to play in promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms and in developing and enhancing public awareness of those rights and freedoms,

Recognizing that the United Nations has played an important role and should continue to play a more important role in assisting the development of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on

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[405] E/CN.4/1999/WG.18/2.

25 June 1993,[406] which reaffirmed the important and constructive role played by national human rights institutions, in particular in their advisory capacity to the competent authorities and their role in remedying human rights violations, in disseminating information on human rights and in education in human rights,

Recalling also the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[407] in which Governments were urged to create or strengthen independent national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, including the human rights of women,

Noting the diverse approaches adopted throughout the world for the promotion and protection of human rights at the national level, emphasizing the universality, indivisibility and interdependence of all human rights, and emphasizing and recognizing the value of such approaches in promoting universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Noting with satisfaction the constructive participation of representatives of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights in, and their positive contribution to, the deliberations of the World Conference on Human Rights and the Commission on Human Rights, as well as international seminars and workshops on human rights organized or sponsored by the United Nations,

Welcoming the strengthening of regional cooperation among national human rights institutions, including through the third annual meeting of the Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions, held at Jakarta in September 1998, the second Regional Conference of African National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, held at Durban, South Africa, in June and July 1998, the first meeting of Mediterranean National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, held at Marrakesh, Morocco, in April 1998, the fourth annual meeting of the Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions, held at Manila in September 1999, and the second session of the Coordinating Committee of African National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, held at Algiers in October 1999,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[408]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the development of effective, independent and pluralistic national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, in keeping with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 48/134 of 20 December 1993;

3. *Recognizes* that, in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[406] it is the right of each State to choose the framework for the national institutions that is best suited to its particular needs at the national level in order to promote human rights in accordance with international human rights standards;

4. *Encourages* Member States to establish or, where they already exist, to strengthen national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, as outlined in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

5. *Welcomes* the growing number of States establishing or considering the establishment of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights;

6. *Encourages* national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights established by Member States to continue to play an active role in preventing and combating all violations of human rights as enumerated in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and relevant international instruments;

7. *Reaffirms* the role of national institutions, where they exist, as appropriate agencies, *inter alia,* for the dissemination of human rights materials and other public information activities, including those of the United Nations, and in this context expresses its appreciation of the active role that national institutions have played in the celebrations marking the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[409] at the national and local levels;

8. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to give high priority to requests from Member States for assistance in the establishment and strengthening of national human rights institutions as part of the programme of advisory services and technical assistance in the field of human rights;

9. *Commends* the high priority given by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to work on national human rights institutions, and, in view of the expanded activities related to national institutions, encourages the High Commissioner to ensure that appropriate arrangements are made and budgetary resources provided to continue and further extend activities in support of national institutions, and invites Governments to contribute additional, earmarked funds to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights for that purpose;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the increasingly active and important role of the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions, as recognized in Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/54 of 4 March 1994,[410] in close cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner, in assisting Governments and national institutions, when requested, to follow up on relevant resolutions and recommendations concerning the strengthening of national institutions;

11. *Also notes with appreciation* the holding of regular meetings of the International Coordinating Committee of

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[406] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[407] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[408] A/54/336.

[409] Resolution 217 A (III).

[410] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 4* and corrigendum (E/1994/24 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

National Institutions and the arrangements for the participation of national human rights institutions in the annual sessions of the Commission on Human Rights;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary assistance for holding meetings of the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions during the sessions of the Commission on Human Rights, in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide, including from the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights, the necessary assistance for regional meetings of national institutions;

14. *Recognizes* the important and constructive role that non-governmental organizations may play, in cooperation with national institutions, for the better promotion and protection of human rights;

15. *Encourages* all Member States to take appropriate steps to promote the exchange of information and experience concerning the establishment and effective operation of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights;

16. *Encourages* all United Nations entities, funds and agencies to work in close cooperation with national institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 54/177

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 61 to 47, with 51 abstentions,[411] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.3)

54/177. Human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[412] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[413] and other human rights instruments,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

Mindful that the Islamic Republic of Iran is a party to the International Covenants on Human Rights,

Recalling its previous resolutions on this subject, including the most recent, resolution 53/158 of 9 December 1998, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/13 of 23 April 1999,[414]

1. *Welcomes* the interim report of the Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran;[415]

2. *Also welcomes* the stated commitment of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to promote the rule of law, including the elimination of arbitrary arrest and detention, and to reform the legal and penitentiary system and bring it into line with international human rights standards in this field;

3. *Further welcomes* the continued public debate in the Islamic Republic of Iran on issues of governance and human rights, encourages further efforts to ensure freedom of opinion, of the press and of cultural activities, and also welcomes the support given by the Government to the development of non-governmental organizations;

4. *Welcomes* the progress in democracy achieved by the holding of local elections in the Islamic Republic of Iran in February 1999, trusts that the forthcoming elections to the Majlis will be held with full respect for due democratic process, and calls upon the Government to continue its efforts towards strengthening democracy and the holding of free and fair elections;

5. *Also welcomes* the needs assessment mission undertaken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the Islamic Republic of Iran at the invitation of the Government, as well as the invitation by the Government to the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances to visit the country, and expresses the hope that the visit will take place soon;

6. *Further welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to investigate the cases of disappearances and killings of intellectuals and political activists, and calls upon the Government to continue its efforts to investigate the cases fully in due process of law and to bring the perpetrators to justice;

7. *Takes note with interest* of the gradual increase in the presence of women in public life in the Islamic Republic of Iran and the efforts made by the Government in this regard, expresses its concern at the continued discrimination in law and in practice against women, and calls upon the Government to take further measures to ensure the full and equal enjoyment by women of their human rights;

8. *Also takes note with interest* of the focus of the Islamic Human Rights Commission on the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and expresses the hope that the Commission will align itself with the 1993 principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights;[416]

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[411] For details, see annex II.

[412] Resolution 217 A (III).

[413] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[414] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[415] See A/54/365.

[416] Resolution 48/134, annex.

9. *Expresses its concern* at continuing threats by the 15 Khordad Foundation to the life of Salman Rushdie, including the increase in the bounty announced by the Foundation after the assurance given by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in New York in September 1998, and welcomes the assurance given by the Government that it has no intention of taking any action whatsoever to threaten the life of Mr. Rushdie and those associated with his work or of encouraging or assisting anyone to do so, and that it dissociates itself from any reward offered in this regard and does not support it;

10. *Also expresses its concern* that, since 1996, no invitation has been extended by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Special Representative to visit the country, and calls upon the Government to resume its full cooperation with the Special Representative and to extend an invitation to him to visit the country;

11. *Expresses its serious concern* at the continuing violations of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, as reported by the Special Representative, in particular executions in the apparent absence of respect for internationally recognized safeguards, the use of national security laws as a basis for derogating from the rights of the individual, cases of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment as well as the failure to meet international standards in the administration of justice and the absence of due process of law, and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to take all necessary steps to end the use of torture and the practice of amputation, stoning and other forms of cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment;

12. *Expresses its concern* at the restrictions on freedom of expression, opinion, thought and the press and at the interference with the work of writers and journalists and the closure of publications, as well as at the circumstances surrounding the arrests of individuals based on involvement in student demonstrations and at reports that some of them may be subject to death sentences, or other harsh sentences, and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to take further measures to secure freedom of expression, opinion, thought and the press;

13. *Also expresses its concern* at the discrimination against religious minorities, in particular the Baha'is, and remains gravely concerned at the unabated pattern of persecution against the Baha'is, including death sentences, arrests and the closure of the Baha'i Institute of Higher Education, and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to implement fully the conclusions and recommendations of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on religious intolerance relating to the Baha'is and other religious minorities until they are completely emancipated;

14. *Calls upon* the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran to make further efforts to ensure for all the application of due process of law by the judiciary in all instances and, in this context, to ensure a fair and transparent trial for the group of people detained early in 1999, which includes thirteen members of the Iranian Jewish community, and notes the stated commitments of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in this regard;

15. *Calls upon* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to continue its efforts and to abide by its freely undertaken obligations under the International Covenants on Human Rights[413] and other international instruments on human rights, and to ensure that all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction, including persons belonging to religious minorities, enjoy the rights enshrined in those instruments;

16. *Also calls upon* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to ensure that capital punishment will not be imposed for crimes other than the most serious, for apostasy or otherwise in disregard of the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[413] and United Nations safeguards, and to provide the Special Representative with relevant statistics on this matter;

17. *Decides* to continue the examination of the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, including the situation of minority groups such as the Baha'is, at its fifty-fifth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions", in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights.

RESOLUTION 54/178

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 100 to 3, with 53 abstentions,[417] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.3)

54/178. Human rights situation in Iraq

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[418] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[419] and other human rights instruments,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

Mindful that Iraq is a party to the International Covenants on Human Rights, to other international human rights instruments and to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war,[420]

Recalling its previous resolutions and those of the Commission on Human Rights on the subject, and taking note of the most recent, Commission resolution 1999/14 of 23 April 1999,[421]

Recalling also Security Council resolution 686 (1991) of 2 March 1991, in which the Council called upon Iraq to release all Kuwaitis and nationals of other States who might still be held in detention, Council resolutions 687 (1991) of 3 April 1991, 688 (1991) of 5 April 1991, in which the Council demanded an end to repression of the Iraqi civilian population and insisted that Iraq cooperate with humanitarian organizations and that the human rights of all Iraqi citizens be respected, and Council resolutions 986 (1995) of 14 April 1995, 1111 (1997) of 4 June 1997, 1129 (1997) of 12 September 1997, 1143 (1997) of 4 December 1997, 1153 (1998) of 20 February 1998, 1175 (1998) of 19 June 1998, 1210 (1998) of 24 November 1998, 1242 (1999) of 21 May 1999 and 1266 (1999) of 4 October 1999, by which the Council authorized States to permit imports of Iraqi oil in order to allow Iraq to purchase humanitarian supplies,

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[417] For details, see annex II.

[418] Resolution 217 A (III).

[419] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[420] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[421] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Taking note of the concluding observations of the Human Rights Committee,[422] the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination,[423] the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[424] and the Committee on the Rights of the Child[425] on the recent reports submitted to them by Iraq, in which these treaty-monitoring bodies point to a wide range of human rights problems and hold the view that the Government of Iraq remains bound by its treaty obligations, while pointing to the adverse effect of sanctions on the daily life of the population, including children,

Taking note also of the reports of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of Security Council resolutions 986 (1995),[426] 1111 (1997),[427] 1143 (1997),[428] 1175 (1998),[429] 1210 (1998),[430] 1242 (1999)[431] and, in particular, his report of 19 August 1999 concerning the implementation of Council resolution 1242 (1999),[432]

Reaffirming that it is the responsibility of the Government of Iraq to ensure the well-being of its entire population and the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, concerned about the dire humanitarian situation in Iraq, which particularly affects certain vulnerable groups, such as children, *inter alia*, as stated in the reports of several United Nations human rights treaty bodies, and appealing to all concerned to fulfil their mutual obligations in the management of the humanitarian programme established by the Security Council in its resolution 986 (1995),

1. *Welcomes* the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Iraq[433] and the observations, conclusions and recommendations contained therein, and notes with dismay that there has been no improvement in the situation of human rights in the country;

2. *Strongly condemns*:

(*a*) The systematic, widespread and extremely grave violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law by the Government of Iraq, resulting in an all-pervasive repression and oppression sustained by broad-based discrimination and widespread terror;

(*b*) The suppression of freedom of thought, expression, information, association, assembly and movement through fear of arrest, imprisonment, executions and other sanctions;

(*c*) The widespread use of the death penalty in disregard of the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[419] and the United Nations safeguards;

(*d*) Summary and arbitrary executions, including political killings and the continued, so-called clean-out of prisons, as well as enforced or involuntary disappearances, routinely practised arbitrary arrests and detention, and consistent and routine failure to respect due process and the rule of law, for example, in the execution of delinquents for minor property offences and customs violations;

(*e*) Widespread, systematic torture and the enactment and implementation of decrees prescribing cruel and inhuman punishment as a penalty for offences;

3. *Calls upon* the Government of Iraq:

(*a*) To abide by its freely undertaken obligations under international human rights treaties and international humanitarian law and to respect and ensure the rights of all individuals, irrespective of their origin, ethnicity, gender or religion, within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction;

(*b*) To bring the actions of its military and security forces into conformity with the standards of international law, in particular those of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

(*c*) To cooperate with United Nations human rights mechanisms, in particular by receiving a return visit by the Special Rapporteur to Iraq and allowing the stationing of human rights monitors throughout Iraq pursuant to the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights;

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[422] CCPR/C/79/Add.84.

[423] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/54/18), paras. 337–361.

[424] E/C.12/1/Add.17.

[425] CRC/C/15/Add.94.

[426] S/1996/1015; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-first Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1996*.

[427] S/1997/935; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-second Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1997*.

[428] S/1998/90, S/1998/194 and Corr.1 and S/1998/477; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1998*; and ibid., *Supplement for April, May and June 1998*.

[429] S/1998/823 and S/1998/1100; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1998*; and ibid., *Supplement for October, November and December 1998*.

[430] S/1999/187 and S/1999/573 and Corr.2; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1999*; and ibid., *Supplement for April, May and June 1999*.

[431] S/1999/896 and Corr.1 and S/1999/1162 and Corr.1; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999*; and ibid., *Supplement for October, November and December 1999*.

[432] S/1999/896 and Corr.1; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999*.

[433] See A/54/466.

(*d*) To establish independence of the judiciary and abrogate all laws granting impunity to specified forces or persons killing or injuring individuals for any purpose beyond the administration of justice under the rule of law as prescribed by international standards;

(*e*) To abrogate all decrees that prescribe cruel and inhuman punishment or treatment, including mutilation, and to ensure that torture and cruel punishment and treatment no longer occur;

(*f*) To abrogate all laws and procedures, including Revolution Command Council Decree No. 840 of 4 November 1986, that penalize free expression, and to ensure that the genuine will of the people shall be the basis of authority of the State;

(*g*) To respect the rights of all ethnic and religious groups and to cease immediately its repressive practices aimed at the Iraqi Kurds, Assyrians and Turkmen, in particular their deportation from the regions of Kirkuk and Khanaqin, and at the population of the southern marsh areas, where drainage projects have provoked environmental destruction and a deterioration of the situation of the civilian population, and to ensure the personal integrity and freedom, including the full freedom of belief, of the Shi'a and their religious establishment;

(*h*) To cooperate with the Tripartite Commission and its Technical Subcommittee to establish the whereabouts and resolve the fate of the remaining several hundred missing persons, including prisoners of war, Kuwaiti nationals and third-country nationals, victims of the illegal Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, to cooperate with the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances of the Commission on Human Rights for that purpose, and to pay compensation to the families of those who died or disappeared in the custody of the Iraqi authorities, through the mechanism established by the Security Council in its resolution 692 (1991) of 20 May 1991, and to release immediately all Kuwaitis and nationals of other States who may still be held in detention;

(*i*) To cooperate fully with international aid agencies and non-governmental organizations in providing humanitarian assistance and monitoring in the northern and southern areas of the country;

(*j*) To continue to cooperate in the implementation of Security Council resolutions 986 (1995), 1111 (1997), 1143 (1997), 1153 (1998), 1210 (1998), 1242 (1999) and 1266 (1999) so as to ensure fully the equitable distribution, without discrimination, to the Iraqi population, including members of the population in remote areas, of the humanitarian supplies purchased under the oil for food programme and to continue to facilitate the work of United Nations humanitarian personnel in Iraq by ensuring the free and unobstructed movement of observers throughout the country;

(*k*) To cooperate in the identification of minefields existing throughout Iraq with a view to facilitating their marking and eventual clearing;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all necessary assistance in carrying out his mandate, and decides to continue the examination of the situation of human rights in Iraq at its fifty-fifth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions", in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights.

RESOLUTION 54/179

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 91 to 10, with 54 abstentions,[434] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.3)

54/179. Situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[435] the International Covenants on Human Rights[436] and other human rights instruments,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

Mindful that the Democratic Republic of the Congo is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[436] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[436] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[437] the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war,[438] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[439] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[440] as well as to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,[441]

Recalling its previous resolutions on this subject, including the most recent, resolution 53/160 of 9 December 1998, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/56 of 27 April 1999,[442] as well as Security Council resolution 1234 (1999) of 9 April 1999, and mindful of Security Council resolutions 1258 (1999) of 6 August 1999 and 1273 (1999) of 5 November 1999,

Recognizing that the promotion and protection of human rights for all are essential for achieving stability and security in the region and will contribute to the creation of the necessary environment for cooperation among States in the region,

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[434] For details, see annex II.

[435] Resolution 217 A (III).

[436] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[437] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[438] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[439] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[440] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[441] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1520, No. 26363.

[442] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Taking into account the regional dimension of the human rights issues in the Great Lakes region, while underlining the primary responsibility of States for the promotion and protection of human rights, and stressing the importance of technical cooperation with a view to strengthening regional cooperation for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Bearing in mind the decision of the Commission on Human Rights to request the special rapporteurs of the Commission on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and a member of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances to carry out a joint mission to the Democratic Republic of the Congo,[442]

Noting the stated intention of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo progressively to abolish the death penalty, and, with that in view, encouraging the Government to fulfil its commitment to reform and restore the judicial system in conformity with the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

1. *Welcomes*:

(*a*) The report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;[443]

(*b*) The two visits of the Special Rapporteur to the Democratic Republic of the Congo in February and August/September 1999 at the invitation of the Government and the cooperation of the Government in this regard;

(*c*) The activities of the human rights field office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, while encouraging the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to work closely and to strengthen further its cooperation with the field office;

(*d*) The Ceasefire Agreement,[444] which was signed at Lusaka on 10 July 1999 by all parties involved in the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*e*) The appointment by the Secretary-General of a special envoy for the peace process for the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*f*) The appointment by the Secretary-General of a special representative for the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*g*) The appointment of the Minister of Human Rights within the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and expresses the hope that that appointment will contribute to an improvement of the situation of human rights;

(*h*) The commitment by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to cooperate with United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations in ensuring the demobilization, rehabilitation and reintegration of child soldiers, and encourages the Government to implement fully its commitment;

2. *Expresses its concern* at:

(*a*) The adverse impact of the conflict on the situation of human rights and its severe consequences for the security and well-being of the civilian population throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*b*) The preoccupying situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular in the eastern parts of the country, and the continuing violations of human rights and international humanitarian law committed throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, often with impunity, and, with that in view, condemns:

(i) The perpetration of massacres, in the course of the conflicts, including, more recently, in 1998 and 1999, those in Kasika, Makobola, Kamituga, Kavumu, Kilungutwe, Kasanga, Kazima, Mboko, Kabare, Mwenga, Libenge and Kasala;

(ii) The occurrence of cases of summary or arbitrary execution, disappearance, torture, beating, harassment, arbitrary arrest and detention without trial, including of journalists, opposition politicians, human rights defenders and people who have cooperated with the United Nations mechanisms, and reports of sexual violence against women and children and the continuing recruitment and use of child soldiers;

(iii) The trial of civilians and the imposition of the death penalty by the Military Court;

(*c*) The excessive accumulation and spread of small arms and light weapons and the illicit distribution, circulation and trafficking of arms in the region and their negative impact on human rights;

3. *Urges* all parties to the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo:

(*a*) To work for the full and timely implementation of the provisions of the Ceasefire Agreement and to re-establish the authority of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo throughout its territory, stressing, in the context of a lasting peaceful settlement, the need for the engagement of all Congolese in an all-inclusive process of political dialogue with a view to achieving national reconciliation and the holding of democratic, free, transparent and fair elections;

(*b*) To protect human rights and to respect international humanitarian law, in particular, as applicable to them, the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war,[438] the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[445] and the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide,[446] especially with regard to respect for the rights of women and children, and to ensure the safety of all civilians, including refugees and internally displaced persons within the territory of that country regardless of their origin;

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[443] See A/54/361

[444] S/1999/815, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999*

[445] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513

[446] Resolution 260 A (III)

(*c*) To ensure the safety, security and freedom of movement of United Nations and associated personnel within the Democratic Republic of the Congo and, in this regard, to ensure safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel to all affected populations;

(*d*) To bring an end to all violations of human rights and to ensure that there is no impunity for human rights violators;

(*e*) To cooperate fully with the National Commission of Inquiry on the alleged massacres of a large number of refugees and displaced persons in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and also with the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in addressing these allegations, with a view to the submission of a further report by the National Commission of Inquiry to the Secretary-General on the progress of its investigations into this question;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo:

(*a*) To comply with its obligations under international human rights law and to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms throughout its entire territory;

(*b*) To take a leading part in efforts to prevent conditions that might lead to further flows of internally displaced persons and refugees within the Democratic Republic of the Congo and across its borders;

(*c*) To uphold its commitment to reform and restore the judicial system and in particular to reform military justice in conformity with the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[416] and encourages provisional assistance to this end;

(*d*) To implement fully its commitment to the democratization process, in particular the national dialogue, as set out in the Ceasefire Agreement, and to create, in this context, conditions that would allow for a democratization process that is genuine and all-inclusive and that fully reflects the aspirations of all people of the country;

(*e*) To fulfil its responsibility to ensure that those responsible for human rights violations are brought to justice;

(*f*) To remove the remaining administrative restrictions on the activities of political parties and to prepare for the holding of democratic, free, transparent and fair elections;

(*g*) To promote human rights awareness, *inter alia*, by strengthening cooperation with civil society, including all human rights organizations, and to remove the restrictions that still affect the work of non-governmental organizations;

(*h*) To ensure full respect for freedom of opinion and expression, including freedom of the press in all types of mass media, as well as freedom of association and assembly;

(*i*) To cooperate fully with the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 in ensuring that all those responsible for the crime of genocide, crimes against humanity and other grave violations of human rights are brought to justice in accordance with international principles of due process;

5. *Decides* to continue to examine the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and requests the Special Rapporteur to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 54/180

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)

54/180. Human rights and mass exoduses

The General Assembly,

Deeply disturbed by the scale and magnitude of exoduses and displacements of people in many regions of the world and by the human suffering of refugees and displaced persons, a high proportion of whom are women and children,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions, as well as those of the Commission on Human Rights, in particular Commission resolution 1998/49 of 17 April 1998,[447] and the conclusions of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993,[448] which recognized that gross violations of human rights, persecution, political and ethnic conflicts, famine and economic insecurity, poverty and generalized violence are among the root causes leading to mass exodus and displacements of people, and also recalling the second open debate that was held in the Security Council on the protection of civilians in armed conflict on 16 and 17 September 1999,[449]

Recalling with satisfaction its endorsement, in its resolution 41/70 of 3 December 1986, of the call upon all States to promote human rights and fundamental freedoms and to refrain from denying these to individuals in their population because of nationality, ethnicity, race, religion or language,

Recalling all relevant human rights standards, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[450] the principles of international protection for refugees and the general conclusion of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on international protection[451] and the fact that asylum applicants should have access to fair and expeditious status-determination procedures,

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[447] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[448] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[449] See S/PV.4046, S/PV.4046 (Resumption 1) and Corr.2 and S/PV.4046 (Resumption 2). For the final text, see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year*, 4046th meeting.

[450] Resolution 217 A (III).

[451] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 12A* (A/54/12/Add.1), chap. III, sect. A.1.

Stressing the importance of adherence to international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law in order to avert mass exoduses and to protect refugees and internally displaced persons, and expressing its deep concern at the lack of respect for those laws and principles, especially during armed conflict, including the denial of safe and unimpeded access to the displaced,

Noting, in this regard, the entry into force of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 9 December 1994,[452] urging States to consider ratifying or acceding to the Convention, and condemning attacks and the use of force against United Nations and associated personnel, as well as personnel of international humanitarian organizations,

Reaffirming the primary responsibility of States to ensure the protection of refugees and internally displaced persons,

Recognizing the contribution of the establishment of the International Criminal Court to ending impunity for perpetrators of certain crimes, as defined in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[453] which lead to or result from mass exoduses,

Noting with satisfaction the efforts by the United Nations system to develop a comprehensive approach to addressing the root causes and effects of movements of refugees and other displaced persons and the strengthening of emergency preparedness and response mechanisms,

Recognizing that the human rights machinery of the United Nations, including the mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and the human rights treaty bodies, has important capabilities to address human rights violations that cause movements of refugees and displaced persons or prevent durable solutions to their plight,

Recognizing also the complementarity between the systems for the protection of human rights and for humanitarian action, in particular the mandates of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as the work of the representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and that cooperation between them, in accordance with their respective mandates, as well as coordination between the human rights, political and security components of United Nations operations, make important contributions to the promotion and protection of human rights of persons forced into mass exodus and displacement,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[454]

2. *Strongly deplores* ethnic and other forms of intolerance as one of the major causes of forced migratory movements, and urges States to take all necessary steps to ensure respect for human rights, especially the rights of persons belonging to minorities;

3. *Reaffirms* the need for all Governments, intergovernmental bodies and concerned international organizations to intensify their cooperation and assistance in worldwide efforts to address human rights situations that lead to, as well as the serious problems that result from, mass exoduses of refugees and displaced persons;

4. *Emphasizes* the responsibility of all States and international organizations to cooperate with those countries, in particular developing ones, affected by mass exoduses of refugees and displaced persons, and calls upon Governments, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relevant parts of the United Nations system to continue to respond to assistance needs of countries hosting large numbers of refugees until durable solutions are found;

5. *Urges* the Secretary-General to give high priority to and to allocate the necessary resources within the regular budget of the United Nations for the consolidation and strengthening of emergency preparedness and response mechanisms, including early warning activities in the humanitarian area, for the purpose of ensuring, *inter alia*, that effective action is taken to identify all human rights abuses that contribute to mass exoduses of persons;

6. *Invites* the special rapporteurs, special representatives and working groups of the Commission on Human Rights and the United Nations human rights treaty bodies, acting within their mandates, to seek information, where appropriate, on human rights problems that may result in mass exoduses of populations or impede their voluntary return home and, where appropriate, to include such information, together with recommendations thereon, in their reports and to bring such information to the attention of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for appropriate action in fulfilment of her mandate, in consultation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

7. *Requests* all United Nations bodies, acting within their mandates, the specialized agencies and governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to cooperate fully with all mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and, in particular, to provide them with all relevant information in their possession on the human rights situations creating or affecting refugees and displaced persons;

8. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in the exercise of her mandate, as set out in General Assembly resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, to coordinate human rights activities throughout the United Nations system and, in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to pay particular attention to situations that cause or threaten to cause mass exoduses or displacements and to contribute to efforts to address such situations effectively through promotion and protection measures, emergency preparedness and response mechanisms, early warning and information sharing, technical advice, expertise and cooperation in countries of origin as well as host countries;

9. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to contribute to the creation of an environment viable for return in post-conflict societies through initiatives such as the rehabilitation of the justice

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[452] Resolution 49/59, annex.

[453] A/CONF.183/9.

[454] A/54/360.

system, the creation of national institutions capable of defending human rights and broad-based programmes of human rights education and the strengthening of local non-governmental organizations through field presences and programmes of advisory services and technical cooperation;

10. *Welcomes with appreciation* the ongoing contributions of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to the deliberations of the Commission on Human Rights and to other international human rights bodies and mechanisms, and also welcomes the invitation extended to her by the Commission to address the Commission at each of its future sessions;

11. *Encourages* States that have not already done so to consider acceding to the 1951 Convention[455] and the 1967 Protocol[456] relating to the Status of Refugees and to other relevant regional instruments concerning refugees, as applicable, and relevant international instruments of human rights and humanitarian law, and to take appropriate measures to disseminate and implement those instruments domestically to encourage compliance with provisions against arbitrary and forcible displacement and greater respect for the rights of those who flee;

12. *Notes with appreciation* that a number of States not parties to the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol continue to maintain a generous approach to asylum;

13. *Encourages* States parties to the 1951 Convention to provide information to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in accordance with article 35 of the Convention;

14. *Calls upon* States to ensure effective protection of and assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons, consistent with international law, *inter alia*, by respecting the principle of non-refoulement, ensuring full, safe and unhindered access by humanitarian workers to displaced populations and ensuring the security and civilian and humanitarian nature of camps and settlements for refugees and internally displaced persons;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution as it pertains to all aspects of human rights and mass exoduses, including detailed information on the programmatic, institutional, administrative, financial and management efforts instituted to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to avert new flows of refugees and other displaced persons, to tackle the root causes of such flows, to protect those who have become displaced during mass exoduses and to facilitate their return and reintegration;

16. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-sixth session.

RESOLUTION 54/181

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.2)

54/181. Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/154 of 9 December 1998, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/68 of 28 April 1999[457] on the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights, and recalling also Assembly resolution 53/22 of 4 November 1998 on the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations,

Reaffirming its commitment to promoting international cooperation, as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, in particular Article 1, paragraph 3, as well as relevant provisions of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[458] for enhancing genuine cooperation among Member States in the field of human rights,

Recognizing that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations, including the effective promotion and protection of all human rights,

Reaffirming the importance of ensuring the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues, and underlining the importance of the promotion of dialogue on human rights issues,

Noting the adoption of resolution 1999/25 of 26 August 1999, entitled "Promotion of dialogue on human rights issues", by the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights of the Commission on Human Rights[459] at its fifty-first session,[460] and noting the decision of the Subcommission to consider the question of a dialogue among civilizations at its fifty-second session,

1. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission on Human Rights to continue to consider the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights at its fifty-sixth session;

2. *Calls upon* Members States, specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations to continue to carry out a constructive dialogue and consultations for the enhancement of understanding and the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and encourages non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to this endeavour;

3. *Invites* States and all relevant United Nations human rights mechanisms and procedures to continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights;

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[455] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[456] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[457] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[458] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[459] The Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities was renamed the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 1999/256 of 27 July 1999.

[460] See E/CN.4/2000/2–E/CN.4/Sub.2/1999/54, chap. II, sect. A.

4. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 54/182

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 89 to 30, with 39 abstentions,[461] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.3)

54/182. Situation of human rights in the Sudan

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as stated in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[462] the International Covenants on Human Rights[463] and other applicable human rights instruments and to fulfil the obligations that they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

Mindful that the Sudan is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[463] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[463] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[464] the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights[465] and the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[466]

Recalling its previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in the Sudan, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/15 of 23 April 1999,[467]

Aware of the urgent need to implement effective measures in the field of human rights and humanitarian relief to protect the civilian population from the effects of armed conflicts,

Welcoming the Peace Agreement of 1997, the acceptance of the Declaration of Principles as a basis for negotiations, the declaration by the Government of the Sudan of a comprehensive ceasefire on 5 April 1999 and the decision made by the Sudanese People's Liberation Army to extend the ceasefire in the Bahr el-Ghazal region in southern Sudan for a further three months, while at the same time deeply concerned at the impact of the continuing conflict in the Sudan between the Government of the Sudan and the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement/Army on the situation of human rights and at the disregard by all parties to the conflict of relevant rules of international humanitarian law,

Expressing its firm belief that progress towards a peaceful settlement of the conflict in southern Sudan within the peace initiative of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development will greatly contribute to the creation of a better environment to encourage respect for human rights in the Sudan,

Condemning the murder of four Sudanese relief workers in April 1999 while in the custody of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army,

1. *Welcomes:*

(*a*) The interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Sudan;[468]

(*b*) The visit by the Special Rapporteur to the Sudan in February 1999 at the invitation of the Government of the Sudan and the excellent cooperation extended by the Government in this regard, as well as the stated willingness of the Government to continue to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur and the invitation extended to the Special Rapporteur;

(*c*) The visit by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict to the Sudan in March 1999 and the cooperation extended by the Government of the Sudan in this regard;

(*d*) The cooperation extended by the Government of the Sudan to the needs assessment mission of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, which took place from 14 to 26 September 1999;

(*e*) The fact-finding mission by the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression in September 1999, pursuant to the invitation extended by the Government of the Sudan;

(*f*) The cooperation extended by the Government of the Sudan and the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement/Army to the humanitarian needs assessment mission of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme to the Nuba Mountains, which took place from 21 to 24 June 1999;

(*g*) The expressed commitment of the Government of the Sudan to respect and promote human rights and the rule of law and its expressed commitment to a process of democratization with a view to establishing a representative and accountable government, reflecting the aspirations of the people of the Sudan;

(*h*) The stipulation of basic human rights and freedoms in the Constitution of the Sudan, which entered into force on 1 July 1998;

(*i*) The establishment of the Constitutional Court, which has been in operation since April 1999;

(*j*) The creation of the Committee for the Eradication of Abduction of Women and Children as a constructive response on the part of the Government of the Sudan and the cooperation extended to the Committee by the local communities and the support of the international community and non-governmental organizations;

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[461] For details, see annex II.

[462] Resolution 217 A (III).

[463] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[464] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[465] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1520, No. 26363.

[466] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

[467] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[468] A/54/467, annex.

(*k*) The efforts to implement the right to education;

(*l*) The commitments made by the Government of the Sudan to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, in particular the commitment not to use or recruit children under the age of 18 as soldiers;

(*m*) The efforts to address the problem of internally displaced persons;

2. *Expresses its deep concern*:

(*a*) At the impact of the current armed conflict on the situation of human rights and its adverse effect on the civilian population, in particular women and children, and continuing serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law by all parties, in particular:

(i) The occurrence of cases of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary execution resulting from conflict between members of the armed forces and their allies, and armed insurgent groups, including the Sudanese People's Liberation Army;

(ii) The occurrence, within the framework of the conflict in southern Sudan, of cases of enforced or involuntary disappearance, the use of children as soldiers and combatants, forced conscription, forced displacement, arbitrary detention, torture and ill-treatment of civilians;

(iii) The abduction of women and children to be subjected to forced labour or similar conditions;

(iv) The use of weapons, including landmines, against the civilian population;

(*b*) At violations of human rights in areas under the control of the Government of the Sudan, in particular:

(i) The widespread use of torture and arbitrary detention affecting, *inter alia*, human rights defenders, journalists and political opponents, as well as the lack of due process of law and acts of intimidation and harassment of the population, in particular by the security organs;

(ii) Cases of restriction on freedom of religion and peaceful assembly;

3. *Urges* all parties to the continuing conflict in the Sudan:

(*a*) To respect and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, to respect fully international humanitarian law, thereby facilitating the voluntary return, repatriation and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons to their homes, and to ensure that those responsible for violations of human rights and international humanitarian law are brought to justice;

(*b*) To stop immediately the use of weapons, including landmines, against the civilian population, which runs counter to principles of humanitarian law, and urges in particular the Sudanese People's Liberation Army to stop immediately the use of civilian premises for military purposes;

(*c*) To grant safe and unhindered access to international agencies and humanitarian organizations in order to facilitate by all means possible the delivery of humanitarian assistance to all civilians in need of protection and assistance, in particular in Bahr el-Ghazal, the Nuba Mountains and the Western Upper Nile, and to continue to cooperate in this regard with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and Operation Lifeline Sudan in the delivery of such assistance;

(*d*) To continue to cooperate with the peace efforts of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development;

(*e*) Not to use or recruit children under the age of 18 as soldiers, and urges the Sudanese People's Liberation Army to undertake a commitment similar to that made by the Government of the Sudan to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict in this regard and to refrain from the practice of forced conscription;

(*f*) To fulfil their commitments concerning the protection of children affected by war, such as to cease the use of anti-personnel landmines, the abduction and exploitation of children and the recruitment of children as soldiers, to advance the demobilization and reintegration of child soldiers and to ensure access to displaced and unaccompanied minors;

(*g*) To allow for an independent investigation of the case of the four Sudanese nationals who were abducted on 18 February 1999 while accompanying a team from the International Committee of the Red Cross on a humanitarian mission and subsequently killed while in the custody of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement/Army, and urges the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement/Army to return the bodies to their families;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of the Sudan:

(*a*) To comply fully with its obligations under the international human rights instruments to which the Sudan is a party and to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as to respect its obligations under international humanitarian law;

(*b*) To continue its efforts to ensure the rule of law by bringing legislation into line with the Constitution and the practice of law enforcement more into line with legislation;

(*c*) To continue its efforts to bring its national legislation into conformity with the applicable international human rights instruments to which the Sudan is a party and to ensure that all individuals in its territory enjoy fully the rights recognized in those instruments;

(*d*) To take all effective measures to end and to prevent all acts of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, to ensure that all accused persons are held in ordinary custody and receive prompt, just and fair trials under internationally recognized standards and to investigate all reported acts of torture brought to its attention;

(*e*) To ensure full respect for freedom of expression, opinion, thought, conscience and religion, as well as freedom of association and assembly;

(*f*) To continue to investigate reports of the abduction of women and children taking place within the framework of the conflict in southern Sudan, to bring to trial any persons suspected of supporting or participating in such activities, to facilitate the safe return of affected children to their families as a matter of priority and to take further measures, in particular through the Committee for the Eradication of Abduction of Women and Children;

(*g*) To stop immediately the indiscriminate aerial bombardment of civilian and humanitarian targets, which runs counter to fundamental principles of human rights and humanitarian law;

(*h*) To make further efforts to address the problem of internally displaced persons;

(*i*) To continue to implement its commitment to the democratization process and the rule of law and to create, in this context, conditions that would allow for a democratization process that is genuine and wholly reflects the aspirations of the people of the country and ensures their full participation;

(*j*) To continue efforts to implement the commitment made to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict not to recruit children under the age of 18 as soldiers;

(*k*) To implement the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners[469] and to give special consideration to imprisoned women and juveniles;

5. *Encourages* the Government of the Sudan to continue to pursue its dialogue with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with a view to establishing a permanent representation of the High Commissioner;

6. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to take into consideration requests for assistance by the Government of the Sudan, *inter alia*, with a view to establishing a permanent representation of the High Commissioner as a matter of priority;

7. *Calls upon* the international community to expand its support for activities, in particular those of the Committee for the Eradication of Abduction of Women and Children, aimed at improving respect for human rights and humanitarian law during the conflict;

8. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the situation of human rights in the Sudan at its fifty-fifth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions", in the light of further elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights.

RESOLUTION 54/183

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 108 to 4, with 45 abstentions,[470] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.3)

54/183. Situation of human rights in Kosovo

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[471] the International Covenants on Human Rights[472] and other human rights instruments,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998) of 31 March 1998, 1199 (1998) of 23 September 1998, 1203 (1998) of 24 October 1998, 1239 (1999) of 14 May 1999 and 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999, and the general principles annexed to that resolution, as well as the statement made on 24 March 1998 by the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights at the fifty-fourth session of the Commission,[473] Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1998/79 of 22 April 1998[474] and 1999/2 of 13 April 1999[475] and the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the Bureau of the Commission on the situation of human rights in Kosovo of 7 September 1999,

Recalling, against the background of years of repression, intolerance and violence in Kosovo, the challenge to build a multi-ethnic society on the basis of substantial autonomy, respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), pending final settlement in accordance with Security Council resolution 1244 (1999),

Taking fully into account the regional dimensions of the crisis in Kosovo, in particular with regard to the human rights and humanitarian situation and the continuing problems in that regard, and noting that the return of refugees to their homes has contributed to the easing of this crisis,

Taking note with concern of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro),[476] which describes the persistent and grave violations and abuses of human rights and international humanitarian law in Kosovo,

Condemning the grave violations of human rights in Kosovo that affected ethnic Albanians prior to the arrival of personnel of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo and troops of the international security presence, the Kosovo Force, as demonstrated in the many reports of torture, indiscriminate and widespread shelling, mass forced displacement of civilians, summary executions and illegal detention of ethnic Albanians in Kosovo by the Yugoslav police and military,

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[469] *First United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Geneva, 22 August–3 September 1955: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 1956.IV.4), annex I, sect. A.

[470] For details, see annex II.

[471] Resolution 217 A (III).

[472] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[473] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. III, sect. E, para. 28.

[474] Ibid., chap. II, sect. A.

[475] Ibid., *1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[476] A/54/396–S/1999/1000 and Add.1; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999*, documents S/1999/1000 and Add.1.

Deeply concerned, in spite of the efforts of the Mission and the Force, about the frequent instances of harassment, periodic kidnapping and murder of ethnic Serb, Roma and other minorities of Kosovo by ethnic Albanian extremists,

Expressing concern that the entire population of Kosovo has been affected by the conflict, and stressing that all of the national minorities there must benefit from their full and equal rights,

Stressing, in this context, the importance of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991,

Distressed by the lack of due process in the trials in Serbia of the ethnic Albanians who have been detained, charged or brought to trial in relation to the crisis in Kosovo in violation of international human rights standards,

Stressing the urgent need to implement effective measures to stop trafficking in women and children,

1. *Underlines* the obligation of the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to abide by the terms of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and the general principles on the political solution to the Kosovo crisis adopted on 6 May 1999 and annexed to that resolution;

2. *Reaffirms* that the human rights and humanitarian crisis in Kosovo shall be addressed within the framework of a political solution based upon the general principles annexed to Security Council resolution 1244 (1999);

3. *Welcomes* the establishment of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo and the Kosovo Force, and calls upon all parties in Kosovo and the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to cooperate fully with the Mission and the Force in the fulfilment of their respective mandates;

4. *Also welcomes* the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Kosovo and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the efforts of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

5. *Calls upon* all parties in Kosovo to cooperate with the Mission in ensuring full respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms and democratic norms in Kosovo;

6. *Calls upon* all authorities in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), the local Serb leaders in Kosovo and the leaders of the Albanian community in Kosovo to condemn all acts of terrorism, sequestration or kidnapping and forced eviction from homes or places of work of any resident of Kosovo, whatever the ethnic background of the victim and whoever the perpetrators, to refrain from all acts of violence and to use their influence and leadership to cooperate with the Force and the Mission in stopping these incidents and in bringing the perpetrators to justice;

7. *Expresses its concern* about the forced division of any part of Kosovo into ethnic cantons or ethnically based divisions of any type, which is counter to Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and to the guiding principles of Rambouillet,[477] and stresses the need for all parties in Kosovo to take all necessary measures to stop or reverse any action that de facto or *de jure* permits such ethnic cantonization;

8. *Calls upon* all parties, in particular the authorities and representatives of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and the Kosovar Serb and Albanian leaderships, to cooperate with the Mine Action Coordination Centre;

9. *Demands* that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) provide an updated list of all persons detained and transferred from Kosovo to other parts of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), specifying the charge, if any, under which each individual is detained, and that it guarantee their families and non-governmental organizations and international observers unimpeded and regular access to those who remain in detention and release all individuals detained and transferred from Kosovo prior to July 1999 in violation of international humanitarian and human rights standards;

10. *Calls upon* the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to open to public observation trials or criminal prosecutions against all those charged in relation to the conflict in Kosovo;

11. *Calls upon* the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and ethnic Kosovar Serb and Albanian representatives to allow for and to facilitate the free and unhindered return to their homes, in safety and with dignity, of all displaced persons and refugees, of whichever ethnic background, and expresses its concern about reports of continuing harassment or other impediments in this regard;

12. *Calls upon* the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to return or to facilitate the fair, unbiased and accurate restoration or reconstruction of Kosovar documentation and legal records taken or destroyed during the conflict;

13. *Stresses* the importance of and the responsibility of all parties to create a secure environment in Kosovo that will allow refugees and displaced persons to return and allow all those who wish to remain in Kosovo a genuine possibility to do so, irrespective of their ethnic origin;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to pursue his humanitarian efforts in Kosovo through the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, other

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[477] See S/1999/648, annex *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1999*.

appropriate humanitarian organizations and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and to continue to take the urgent practical steps to meet the critical needs of the people in Kosovo and to assist in the voluntary return of displaced persons to their homes in conditions of safety and dignity;

15. *Encourages* the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 to continue investigations at all levels concerning official individuals or private citizens with regard to serious violations of international humanitarian law committed in Kosovo, and reaffirms that the investigation of such crimes falls within the jurisdiction of the Office;

16. *Demands* that the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and the Kosovar Serb and Albanian leaderships and all others concerned cooperate fully with the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and honour all obligations towards it;

17. *Reiterates its call upon* the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to live up to their commitment to provide financial and material assistance to those residents of Kosovo whose homes have been damaged;

18. *Calls upon* the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to provide information on the fate and the whereabouts of the high number of missing persons from Kosovo, and encourages the International Committee of the Red Cross to pursue its clarification efforts in this regard, in cooperation with other organizations such as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

19. *Encourages* the ongoing cooperation provided by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) regarding the visits to some two thousand prisoners, mainly of Kosovar Albanian origin, carried out by the International Committee of the Red Cross and held under the authority of the Ministry of Justice of Serbia;

20. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the international community, and calls for continuing support for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other agencies engaged in the effort to provide those in need in Kosovo with proper accommodation, in particular with a view to facilitating the preparation and provision of adequate winter accommodation;

21. *Urges* all parties involved in Kosovo to support the efforts of the United Nations Children's Fund to ensure that all children in Kosovo return to school as soon as possible and to contribute to the rebuilding and repair of schools destroyed or damaged during the conflict in Kosovo;

22. *Calls* for the most rapid and full deployment of United Nations police and for the creation of a multi-ethnic local police force throughout Kosovo, as a key step towards guaranteeing respect for law and order and for creating a safe environment for all inhabitants of Kosovo;

23. *Condemns* any effort, on behalf of any ethnic group, to create any sort of parallel institutions for Kosovar Serb and Albanian populations, be they police, school, administrative or other institutions, and calls upon the Mission and the Force to prevent any such institutions from being formed;

24. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to continue to monitor closely the situation of human rights in Kosovo, to pay special attention to Kosovo in his reporting and to report his findings to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-sixth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 54/184

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 123 to 2, with 34 abstentions,[478] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.3)

54/184. Situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind all relevant resolutions on this subject, in particular Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/18 of 23 April 1999,[479] as well as all Security Council resolutions and statements,

Bearing in mind also General Assembly resolution 54/183 of 17 December 1999 on the situation of human rights in Kosovo,

Reaffirming the obligations of all Member States under the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[480] the obligations of States parties under the International Covenants on Human Rights[481] and all other human rights instruments and the obligation of all to respect international humanitarian law, including the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war[482] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[483] as well as the principles and commitments undertaken by participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

Reaffirming also the territorial integrity of all States in the region, within their internationally recognized borders, taking fully into account all relevant Security Council resolutions,

Expressing its full support for the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the annexes thereto (collectively the "Peace Agreement"),[484] which, *inter alia*, committed the parties of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to respect human rights fully, and for the Basic Agreement on the Region of Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium (the "Basic Agreement"),[485]

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[478] For details, see annex II.

[479] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[480] Resolution 217 A (III).

[481] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[482] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[483] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

Expressing its deep concern at the continuing evidence of violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms taking place to varying degrees in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and, in particular, the failure of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to follow the recommendations made in 1996 by the personal representative of the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

Welcoming all contributions of the Office of the High Representative, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other parts of the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe, the European Community Monitoring Mission, Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the area in 1999,

1. *Reiterates its call* for the full and consistent implementation of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the annexes thereto (collectively the "Peace Agreement")[484] and the Basic Agreement on the Region of Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium (the "Basic Agreement")[485] by all parties to those agreements;

2. *Stresses* the crucial role of human rights in the successful implementation of the Peace Agreement, and underlines the obligations of the parties under the Peace Agreement to secure for all persons within their jurisdiction the highest level of international norms and standards of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

3. *Also stresses* the need to direct international human rights efforts in the region to the core issues of the lack of full respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all individuals without distinction, the rule of law and effective administration of justice at all levels of government, the freedom and independence of the media, freedom of expression, freedom of association, including with respect to political parties, freedom of religion and freedom of movement;

4. *Further stresses* the need for enhanced international human rights efforts to foster and effect the prompt and voluntary return of displaced persons and refugees in safety and with dignity;

5. *Reiterates its call upon* all parties and States in the region to ensure that the promotion and protection of human rights and effective, functioning democratic institutions will be central elements in developing civilian structures, as reaffirmed at the meetings of the Steering Board of the Peace Implementation Council and the Peace Implementation Conference;

6. *Urges* all States and parties to the Peace Agreement that have not done so to meet their obligations to cooperate fully with the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, as required by Security Council resolution 827 (1993) of 25 May 1993 and all subsequent relevant resolutions, and, in particular, to comply with their obligations to arrest and transfer to the custody of the Tribunal those indicted persons present in their territories or in territories under their control;

7. *Continues to call upon* all parties to the Peace Agreement to take immediate steps to determine the identity, whereabouts and fate of missing persons in their territories, including through close cooperation with the United Nations as well as with humanitarian organizations and independent experts, and stresses the importance of coordination in this area;

8. *Notes* that varying degrees of progress have been made in the human rights situation in several areas, but that substantial efforts remain to be made;

I. BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

9. *Notes* the progress made in Bosnia and Herzegovina with regard to the increase in political pluralism and freedom of expression, through the participation of all groups and individuals, which represents another step towards democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina, but remains concerned that freedom of speech and the media are still curtailed by political influence, notably through the selective and intimidating application of slander laws;

10. *Expresses its continued serious concern* about continuing human rights violations within Bosnia and Herzegovina and delays in the full implementation of the human rights provisions of the Peace Agreement, notably the delay in bringing legislation into compliance with the human rights provisions of the national Constitution of the country, and the failure of local authorities and groups to comply with the obligations of the Peace Agreement;

11. *Condemns in the strongest terms* the complicity by local governments in the perpetration of violence against minority refugees and internally displaced persons returning to their homes and in the destruction of their homes, including acts of intimidation and all those acts designed to discourage the voluntary return of refugees and internally displaced persons, and calls for the removal from office of implicated local government officials as well as the immediate arrest and bringing to justice of those responsible for such acts;

12. *Calls upon* all the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to adjudicate claims for and implement decisions on property rights made by local authorities and/or by the

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[484] S/1995/999; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995.*

[485] S/1995/951; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995.*

Commission for Real Property Claims of Displaced Persons and Refugees without further delay;

13. *Reiterates its demand* that all parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina immediately create conditions conducive to the voluntary return, in safety and with dignity, of refugees and internally displaced persons to their homes, with equal emphasis on the rights of persons belonging to minorities, pass immediately and enforce legislation on property rights in conformity with recommendations made by the Office of the High Representative and end practices of discrimination on ethnic or political grounds;

14. *Notes with satisfaction* the decline in violence against returning refugees and displaced persons, while remaining concerned that all ethnic groups continue to report harassment;

15. *Welcomes* the adoption of a new criminal code and of codes of ethics by the judges and prosecutors of both entities and the increased strength of the prosecutor's office of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina as a result of laws imposed by the High Representative, but notes that the judicial processes still do not sufficiently protect the rights of the accused;

16. *Notes* that implementation of the decisions of the Human Rights Chamber has begun, while reminding both State- and entity-level governments to pay increased attention to decisions of the Chamber;

17. *Calls upon* the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina and, in particular, the authorities of the Republika Srpska to increase their cooperation with the Commission on Human Rights for Bosnia and Herzegovina, to cooperate fully with the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and to intensify their efforts in this regard;

18. *Notes* that police standards and protection have improved, while remaining concerned about continuing indications among the police of unprofessional conduct, political influence and instances of interference with the return of refugees and the use of excessive force;

19. *Urges* the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in particular those of the Republika Srpska, to ensure full and free access to their territories for all institutions and organizations concerned with the implementation of the present resolution, including non-governmental organizations, and to provide for the protection of those organizations, especially those providing humanitarian assistance;

20. *Stresses* the importance of the implementation of the programme proposed by the High Representative in coordination with the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe for a comprehensive judicial reform;

21. *Calls upon* the authorities of both entities to cooperate closely with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in matters relating to the return of refugees and to ensure that local authorities and groups permit and encourage the return of displaced persons to their homes of origin;

22. *Calls upon* the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina urgently to consider, with a view to its early adoption and full implementation, the draft permanent election law designed by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to strengthen ties between constituents and representatives, strengthen democratic accountability and encourage pluralistic, multi-ethnic political parties;

23. *Notes* the importance of the work of the Human Rights Ombudsman in bringing to light many cases of human rights violations and in resolving several of them, and urges the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to implement the recommendations of the Ombudsman;

24. *Condemns* recurrent instances of religious discrimination and violence and the denial to religious minorities of their rights to reclaim and rebuild their religious sites;

25. *Expresses its concern* that trafficking in women is a growing problem, and calls upon the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to act vigorously to combat this problem;

II. REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

26. *Notes with interest* the initiatives taken by the Republic of Croatia to improve the legislative and economic framework for the return of refugees, in particular steps to eliminate discriminatory provisions of Croatian laws;

27. *Notes with satisfaction* the cooperation between the Police Monitoring Group of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the local police forces in Eastern Slavonia, while also noting continued instances of ethnically based problems in Eastern Slavonia;

28. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts by the Republic of Croatia to train and to guarantee the professionalism and impartiality of the Croatian police and military forces, and notes, in particular, the commitment on the part of the Ministry of the Interior to maintain an ethnically diverse police force in the Danube region;

29. *Also welcomes* the actions of the Government of the Republic of Croatia related to the return of significant numbers of persons to their places of origin since 1995 and the steps being taken by the Government to eliminate discriminatory provisions of Croatian laws, while noting that the pace of minority returns from third countries has been disappointing, and expresses concern that protection of the rights of persons belonging to minorities has not met the level of Croatia's legal obligations;

30. *Notes* that the Government of the Republic of Croatia has continued its efforts to codify democratic norms, including the independence of its judiciary and freedom of association and assembly, while also noting that the application by the Government of those laws and principles has lagged behind its stated intentions;

31. *Expresses deep concern* about the fact that commitments by the Government to improve the freedom of the press have remained unfulfilled, and reaffirms the need for free and independent media and the need to provide to all political parties equal access to all forms of media during the forthcoming electoral campaign;

32. *Notes* the passage of a new telecommunications law as a positive step, but urges the Government of the Republic of Croatia to comply with international recommendations, in particular those of the mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in the areas of electoral and media reform, regrets that until now those recommendations have been only partially fulfilled, and stresses the importance of the full application of the citizenship law of 1991;

33. *Expresses deep concern* about the reported extensive campaign of wiretapping against the independent media and opposition political figures, and calls upon the Government of the Republic of Croatia to ensure that the media and opposition political figures and parties are not harassed or hindered in their actions or intimidated by actions of the Government and are guaranteed the same protections as representatives of the media or political establishment who are favourable to the Government;

34. *Welcomes* the signing on 10 May 1999 by the Government of the Republic of Croatia of the programme of technical assistance of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, with a view to building national human rights capacity and human rights education, and looks forward to the implementation of the programme in December 1999;

35. *Notes* the efforts of the Republic of Croatia to codify and incorporate the impartial application of the law, but urges the swift and complete implementation of judicial decisions for all citizens, irrespective of ethnicity, religion or political affiliation, while noting with concern that due process, the rule of law, the treatment of ethnic minorities and press freedoms fall short of the standards of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, notably that lengthy judicial processes plague the Croatian judiciary and that cases of interest to the ruling party are processed more expeditiously than others;

36. *Also notes* the formal steps taken by the Republic of Croatia to guarantee the rights of persons belonging to minorities and the ratification of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities[486] and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages,[487] but continues to remind the Government of its primary responsibility to restore the multi-ethnic character of Croatia, in fact as well as in law, including the pledge to guarantee the representation of national minorities, including Serbs, at various levels of local, regional and national government;

37. *Further notes* outstanding letters from the President of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 to the Security Council, and calls upon the Republic of Croatia to cooperate fully with the Tribunal and to comply, in particular, with its obligation to arrest and transfer to the custody of the Tribunal those indicted persons known to be present in its territory and, when prosecuting war crimes, to ensure that domestic prosecution complies with international standards and the obligations of the Republic of Croatia to the Tribunal;

III. FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA (SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO)

38. *Condemns* the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) for its gross violations of the human rights of the ethnic Albanians of Kosovo and its violent campaign to expel or deport ethnic Albanian Kosovars from their homes and communities in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro);

39. *Calls upon* the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and all authorities and representatives of ethnic groups in Kosovo to implement Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999 and consequently to cooperate fully with and support the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo in the fulfilment of its mandate;

40. *Strongly condemns* the presence of indicted war criminals in the hierarchy of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and of the Government of the Republic of Serbia or those who are fugitives in the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), and calls for them to be removed from office and transferred to the custody of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia as one of the first steps towards reinstating the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) in the community of law-abiding States;

41. *Demands* that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) hand over to the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia all government officials of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and of the Government of the Republic of Serbia indicted as war criminals and repudiate the leadership of anyone so indicted as a first step towards establishing a democratic government and becoming a full and respected member of the international community, and reminds the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) of its obligations to cooperate fully with the Tribunal;

42. *Also demands* that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) immediately bring to justice any persons, in particular those among its personnel, who have authorized or engaged in breaches of international humanitarian law and violations of human rights, including summary executions, indiscriminate attacks on civilians, indiscriminate destruction of property, mass forced displacement of civilians, the taking of civilian hostages, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and, in this context, reminds the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) of its obligations to cooperate fully with the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

43. *Further demands* an immediate end to illegal and/or hidden detention by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), as well as by paramilitary groups in Kosovo, and requests the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and

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[486] Council of Europe, *European Treaty Series*, No. 157.

[487] Ibid., No. 148.

the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to investigate any and all allegations of hidden detentions, including detentions of ethnic Serbs, Albanians and others;

44. *Demands* that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) institutionalize democratic norms by holding free and fair elections at all levels of government, respecting the rule of law and the administration of justice and fully respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms;

45. *Also demands* that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) promote and protect free and independent media and that the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) repeal any law that hinders the full and free exercise of the democratic rights of the citizens of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), cease any harassment and hindrance of journalists, wherever within the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) they may be practising their profession, and repeal repressive laws on universities and the media which suppress any and all internal dissent or expression of independent views, and concomitantly respect the right of free speech;

46. *Emphasizes* that the subversion of the fundamental democratic rights of the citizens of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) extends to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) as a whole, calls upon the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to respect the rights of all persons belonging to minority groups, especially in the Sandjak and Vojvodina, and of persons belonging to the Bulgarian minority, and supports the unconditional return of the long-term missions of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, as called for by the Security Council in its resolutions;

47. *Expresses its concern* at the continued grave infringements upon freedom of expression in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), in particular with regard to the exploitation of the crisis in Kosovo as a means to stifle and suppress views opposing the Government in power, a violation of the basic right of free speech;

48. *Denounces* the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) for its legal and physical intimidation of peaceful political opposition and of individuals who express views that differ from those of the Government, and demands that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) respect the fundamental rights of individuals to free assembly and free speech;

49. *Insists* that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) support the activities of the international community and the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo to rebuild and facilitate the multi-ethnic society in Kosovo that the policy of ethnic cleansing, intimidation and discrimination largely destroyed, in particular by using the influence of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) among the local Serb representatives in Kosovo and by working in good faith with the local Albanian representatives to that end;

50. *Calls upon* the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to implement fully, with dispatch and in good faith, their obligations under the Peace Agreement, notably to cooperate fully with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other humanitarian organizations to alleviate the suffering of refugees and internally displaced persons and to assist in their safe and voluntary return to their homes;

51. *Calls upon* States to consider additional voluntary contributions to meet the pressing human rights and humanitarian needs in the area, and underlines the need for continued coordination among States, international organizations and non-governmental organizations of initiatives and programmes with the aim of avoiding duplication, overlap and working at cross-purposes;

52. *Decides* to continue its examination of this question at its fifty-fifth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 54/185

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.3)

54/185. Question of human rights in Afghanistan

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[488] the International Covenants on Human Rights[489] and accepted humanitarian rules, as set out in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[490] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[491]

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have freely undertaken under the various international instruments,

Recalling that Afghanistan is a party to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide,[492] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[489] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[489] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[493] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[494] and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War[495] and that it has signed the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[496]

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[488] Resolution 217 A (III).

[489] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[490] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

[491] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[492] Resolution 260 A (III).

[493] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[494] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[495] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[496] Resolution 34/180, annex.

Recalling also all its relevant resolutions, as well as the resolutions and presidential statements of the Security Council, the decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the resolutions and decisions of the Commission on Human Rights,

Recalling further that the United Nations continues to play its central and impartial role in international efforts towards a peaceful resolution of the Afghan conflict, and encouraging all efforts at the national, regional and international levels aimed at finding a solution to the continuing conflict through a broad-based dialogue involving all concerned actors,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan[497] and of the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

2. *Strongly condemns* the mass killings and systematic human rights violations against civilians and prisoners of war, including in the areas of Mazar-e Sharif and Bamian, and notes with alarm the resumption by the Taliban of the wider conflict during the past summer, especially in the Shamali Valley, resulting in the massive, forced displacement of the civilian population, in particular of women and children;

3. *Condemns* the widespread violations and abuses of human rights and humanitarian law, including the rights to life, liberty and security of person, freedom from torture and from other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, freedom of opinion, expression, religion, association and movement, the forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict and, in particular, the grave human rights violations against women and girls;

4. *Reiterates its condemnation* of the killings of Iranian diplomats and the correspondent of the Islamic Republic News Agency by the Taliban, which constituted flagrant violations of established international law, as well as of the attacks on and killing of United Nations personnel in Taliban-held territories of Afghanistan, and calls upon the Taliban to fulfil their stated commitment to cooperate in urgent investigations of these heinous crimes with a view to bringing those responsible to justice;

5. *Notes with deep concern*:

(*a*) The persisting pattern of human rights violations in Afghanistan;

(*b*) The continuing and substantiated reports of human rights violations against women and girls, including all forms of discrimination against them, notably in areas under the control of the Taliban;

(*c*) The intensification of armed hostilities in Afghanistan and the complex nature of the conflict, including its ethnic, religious and political aspects, which have resulted in extensive human suffering and forced displacement, including on the grounds of ethnicity;

(*d*) The continued displacement of millions of Afghan refugees to the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan and other countries;

(*e*) The lack of major reconstruction in Afghanistan;

6. *Also notes with deep concern* the sharp deterioration of the humanitarian situation in several areas of Afghanistan, in particular in the Shamali and Panjshir valleys, and calls for the full implementation of the agreement on the security of United Nations personnel in Afghanistan;

7. *Urges* all States to respect the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, to refrain from interfering in its internal affairs and to end immediately the supply of arms, ammunition, military equipment, training or any other military support, including the provision of foreign military personnel, to all parties to the conflict;

8. *Urges* all the Afghan parties:

(*a*) To respect fully all human rights and fundamental freedoms, regardless of gender, ethnicity or religion, in accordance with international human rights instruments;

(*b*) To cease hostilities immediately, to work and cooperate fully with the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan with a view to achieving a ceasefire and to implement the Tashkent Declaration on Fundamental Principles for a Peaceful Settlement of the Conflict in Afghanistan of 19 July 1999,[498] thus laying the foundation for a comprehensive political solution leading to the voluntary return of displaced persons to their homes in safety and with dignity and to the establishment of a broad-based, multi-ethnic, fully representative Government through the full exercise of the Afghan people of the right to self-determination;

(*c*) To reaffirm publicly their commitment to international human rights and principles and to recognize, promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(*d*) To respect fully international humanitarian law, to protect civilians, to halt the use of weapons against the civilian population, to refrain from the wanton destruction of food crops and civilian property, in particular homes, to stop the laying of landmines, especially anti-personnel mines, to prohibit conscripting or enlisting children or using them to participate in hostilities in violation of international law and to ensure the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of children into society;

(*e*) To provide efficient and effective remedies to the victims of grave violations and abuses of human rights and of international humanitarian law and to bring the perpetrators to trial;

(*f*) To treat all suspects and convicted or detained persons in accordance with relevant international instruments and to refrain from arbitrary detention, including detention of civilian foreign nationals, and urges their captors to release them as well as non-criminal civilian prisoners;

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[497] See A/54/422.

[498] A/54/174-S/1999/812, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999*, document S/1999/812.

9. *Demands* that all the Afghan parties fulfil their obligations regarding the safety of all personnel of diplomatic missions, the United Nations and other international organizations, as well as their premises in Afghanistan, and to cooperate fully and without discrimination on grounds of gender, nationality or religion with the United Nations and associated bodies and with other humanitarian organizations, agencies and non-governmental organizations;

10. *Urges* all the Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to bring to an end without delay all violations of human rights against women and girls and to take urgent measures to ensure:

(*a*) The repeal of all legislative and other measures that discriminate against women and girls and those that impede the realization of all their human rights;

(*b*) The effective participation of women in civil, cultural, economic, political and social life throughout the country;

(*c*) Respect for the right of women to work and their reintegration into employment;

(*d*) The right of women and girls to education without discrimination, the reopening of schools and the admission of women and girls to all levels of education;

(*e*) Respect for the right of women to security of person, and that those responsible for physical attacks on women are brought to justice;

(*f*) Respect for the freedom of movement of women and their effective and equal access to the facilities necessary to protect their right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the visit of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences, and looks forward to her conclusions and recommendations;

12. *Also notes with appreciation* the activities carried out by the International Committee of the Red Cross throughout the territory of Afghanistan;

13. *Invites* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to proceed without delay to investigate fully reports of mass killings of prisoners of war and civilians, rape and cruel treatment in Afghanistan, and calls upon the United Front and the Taliban to fulfil their stated commitment to cooperate with such investigations;

14. *Also invites* the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner to ensure that the ongoing process of deployment of the civilian affairs observers in Afghanistan is completed as soon as possible and that gender issues and the rights of children are fully taken into account in their mission;

15. *Appeals* to all States, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, specialized agencies and other international organizations to provide humanitarian assistance to all in need as soon as the situation on the ground permits and as part of an overall effort to achieve peace;

16. *Expresses its deep concern* at reports of attacks on and looting of cultural artifacts in Afghanistan, emphasizes that all parties share the responsibility to protect their common heritage, and requests all Member States to take appropriate measures to prevent the looting of cultural artifacts and to ensure their return to Afghanistan;

17. *Urges* all the Afghan parties to extend their cooperation to the Commission on Human Rights and its Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan and to all those special rapporteurs who are seeking invitations;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur;

19. *Decides* to keep the situation of human rights in Afghanistan under consideration at its fifty-fifth session, in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council.

RESOLUTION 54/186

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.3)

54/186. Situation of human rights in Myanmar

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as stated in the Charter of the United Nations and elaborated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[499] the International Covenants on Human Rights[500] and other applicable human rights instruments,

Aware that, in accordance with its Charter, the United Nations promotes and encourages respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that the will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government, and therefore expressing its grave concern that the Government of Myanmar still has not implemented its commitment to take all necessary steps towards democracy in the light of the results of the elections held in 1990,

Recalling its resolution 53/162 of 9 December 1998,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/58 of 3 March 1992,[501] in which the Commission, *inter alia*, decided to nominate a special rapporteur with a given mandate, and taking note of Commission resolution 1999/17 of 23 April 1999,[502] in which the Commission decided to extend for one year the mandate of its Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar,

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[499] Resolution 217 A (III).

[500] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[501] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 2* (E/1992/22), chap. II, sect. A.

[502] Ibid., *1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Recalling further the observation made by the Special Rapporteur that the absence of respect for the rights pertaining to democratic governance is at the root of all major violations of human rights in Myanmar,

Gravely concerned at the continuing and intensified repression of civil and political rights in Myanmar, as reported by the Special Rapporteur,

Deeply regretting the failure of the Government of Myanmar to cooperate fully with the relevant United Nations mechanisms, in particular the Special Rapporteur, while noting the recent increased contacts between the Government of Myanmar and the international community,

Noting that the Government of Myanmar, as a State party to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[503] has submitted its initial report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women for its consideration,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Myanmar for his interim report,[504] and calls upon the Government of Myanmar to implement fully the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur;

2. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to cooperate fully and without further delay with the Special Rapporteur and to allow him, without preconditions, to conduct a field mission and to establish direct contacts with the Government and all other relevant sectors of society, thus enabling him fully to discharge his mandate, and, in this context, notes with interest that the Government has expressed its willingness to give serious consideration to a visit by the Special Rapporteur;

3. *Welcomes* the resumption of cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross, allowing the Committee to communicate with and visit prisoners in accordance with its standard working rules, and encourages continued cooperation in that regard;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his report,[505] and notes with deep concern his conclusion that he is unable to report concrete progress, with the exception of the visit by the International Committee of the Red Cross, on issues that the international community has raised time and again in successive resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights;

5. *Deplores* the continuing violations of human rights in Myanmar, including extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, enforced disappearances, rape, torture, inhuman treatment, mass arrests, forced labour, including the use of children, forced relocation and denial of freedom of assembly, association, expression and movement, as reported by the Special Rapporteur;

6. *Expresses its grave concern* at the increased repression of any form of public political activity and the arbitrary detention and arrest of those exercising their rights to freedom of thought, expression, assembly and association, as well as the harassment of their families;

7. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to release immediately and unconditionally detained political leaders and all political prisoners, to ensure their physical integrity and to permit them to participate in the process of national reconciliation;

8. *Expresses its grave concern* at the escalation in the persecution of the democratic opposition, notably over the past year, in particular members and supporters of the National League for Democracy, at the harsh long-term prison sentences imposed and the use by the Government of intimidatory measures against elected representatives and members of the National League for Democracy, which forced them to resign from their positions and to dissolve their party offices;

9. *Expresses its concern* that the composition and working procedures of the National Convention do not permit either members of Parliament-elect or representatives of the ethnic minorities to express their views freely, and urges the Government of Myanmar to seek new and constructive means to promote national reconciliation;

10. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar, taking into account the assurances it has given on various occasions, to take all necessary steps towards the restoration of democracy in accordance with the will of the people as expressed in the democratic elections held in 1990 and, to this end and without delay, to engage in a substantive political dialogue with political leaders, including Aung San Suu Kyi, and representatives of ethnic groups, and, in this context, notes the existence of the Committee representing the People's Parliament;

11. *Notes with grave concern* that the Government of Myanmar has failed to review its legislation, to cease to inflict the practice of forced labour on its people and to punish those exacting forced labour, which has forced the International Labour Conference to exclude further cooperation with the Government until such time as it has implemented the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry of the International Labour Organization regarding the implementation of the Forced Labour Convention, 1930, Convention No. 29, of the International Labour Organization;

12. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to cease the widespread and systematic use of forced labour and to implement the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry, while noting the order by the Government of Myanmar issued in May 1999 directing that the power to requisition forced labour under the Towns Act and the Village Act not be exercised, as well as the invitation to visit addressed to the International Labour Organization in October 1999;

13. *Deplores* the continued violations of human rights, in particular those directed against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, including summary executions, rape, torture, forced labour, forced portering, forced relocations, destruction of crops and fields and dispossession of land and property, which deprives those persons of all means of subsistence;

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[503] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[504] A/54/440, annex.

[505] A/54/499.

14. *Also deplores* the continuing violations of the human rights of women, especially women who are refugees, are internally displaced or belong to ethnic minorities or the political opposition, in particular forced labour, sexual violence and exploitation, including rape, as reported by the Special Rapporteur;

15. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to ensure full respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including economic and social rights, to fulfil its obligation to end the impunity of perpetrators of human rights violations, including members of the military, and to investigate and prosecute alleged violations committed by government agents in all circumstances;

16. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to end the enforced displacement of persons and other causes of refugee flows to neighbouring countries and to create conditions conducive to their voluntary return and full reintegration in conditions of safety and dignity;

17. *Notes with interest* the recent visit to Myanmar by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the purpose of holding discussions with the Government and with political leaders, including Aung San Suu Kyi and representatives of some ethnic minority groups, and calls upon the Government of Myanmar to enter into a constructive dialogue with the Secretary-General in order to make better use of his good offices;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his discussions on the situation of human rights and the restoration of democracy with the Government of Myanmar, to submit additional reports to the General Assembly during its fifty-fourth session on the progress of those discussions and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-sixth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

19. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 54/187

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.3)

54/187. Situation of human rights in Haiti

The General Assembly,

Guided by the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[506] the International Covenants on Human Rights[507] and other international human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[508]

Recalling its resolution 53/159 of 9 December 1998, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/77 of 28 April 1999,[509]

Recognizing the interdependence and mutual reinforcement between democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and the commitment of the international community to supporting, strengthening and promoting this principle,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the independent expert of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Haiti, Adama Dieng,[510] and encouraging active follow-up of the recommendations contained therein,

Recognizing the important contributions of the International Civilian Mission in Haiti, the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti and the National Commission for Truth and Justice to the task of restoring and strengthening democracy in Haiti and of establishing a climate of freedom and tolerance conducive to respect for human rights,

Commending the Organization of American States for its contribution to the Civilian Mission, and inviting that organization to pursue, as appropriate, its cooperation with the United Nations in Haiti,

Welcoming the establishment of the new Provisional Electoral Council and the decision taken to organize legislative and local elections on 19 March 2000 and in April 2000 as a step towards re-establishing a functional legislature,

Welcoming also the continued improvements in the situation of human rights in Haiti since the restoration of its democratic regime, and noting the declared commitment of the Government of Haiti to uphold human rights,

Expressing its concern at the security problems faced by Haitian society, some of which are due to the difficult social and economic conditions and which both account for and result from the limitations of the judicial and police systems, as indicated in the report of the independent expert,

Welcoming Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/11 of 27 July 1999, in which the Council, *inter alia*, emphasized the need to establish the necessary mechanisms to develop, on a priority basis, a long-term strategy and programme of support for Haiti,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Secretary-General, his Special Representative for Haiti and the independent expert of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Haiti for their continuing efforts in favour of the consolidation of democratic institutions in Haiti and respect for human rights;

2. *Commends* the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti for its successful training and mentoring assistance to the Haitian National Police, as well as the efforts of the International Civilian Mission in Haiti in monitoring

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[506] Resolution 217 A (III).

[507] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[508] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[509] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[510] See A/54/366.

human rights and promoting democratic reform and assisting the Haitian authorities in the area of institution-building;

3. *Draws attention* to the need for the Haitian National Police to continue to receive technical assistance to enable it to perform its functions efficiently within a framework of respect for human rights;

4. *Commends* the United Nations Development Programme for its technical assistance to the Haitian National Police and the penitentiary system as well as in the organization of the forthcoming electoral process, also commends the international community for the provision of other assistance, including for judicial reform, and invites them to continue to provide appropriate assistance;

5. *Invites* the Government of Haiti to ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[507] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[511] and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;[512]

6. *Strongly supports* the efforts made to enable the people of Haiti to express their political will in the forthcoming legislative and local elections, invites all the political leaders of the country to involve themselves in a constructive dialogue, and in this connection invites the Government of Haiti to ensure the necessary political and security environment for the holding of free and fair elections in accordance with the schedule recently announced by the Provisional Electoral Council;

7. *Calls upon* the Government of Haiti to continue structural reforms in the police and the judicial system and the improvement of the prison sector, to investigate properly politically motivated crimes and prosecute perpetrators of such crimes in accordance with Haitian law, to take vigorous action to eliminate any continuing human rights violations, including illegal arrests and detentions, and to ensure due process within a reasonable time;

8. *Reaffirms* the importance, for combating impunity and for the realization of a genuine and effective process of transition and national reconciliation, of the investigations undertaken by the National Commission for Truth and Justice, and once again calls upon the Government of Haiti to institute legal proceedings against the perpetrators of human rights violations identified by the National Commission and to create effective facilities for providing support to the victims, in particular women, children and members of their families, and in this specific context reiterates the recommendations contained in the report of the independent expert of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Haiti;[510]

9. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Government of Haiti, in collaboration with the international community and women's groups, to put in place measures to address the human rights of women and, *inter alia*, violence against women, including the development of training programmes for judicial and legal personnel and the incorporation of the precept of the human rights of women at all levels of the education system;

10. *Encourages* the Government of Haiti to promote further the rights of children, in particular their right to education;

11. *Invites* the Secretary-General and the Government of Haiti to contribute to the strengthening of the Office for the Protection of Citizens through the establishment of a programme of technical cooperation, in close collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and invites the international community to assist in this effort;

12. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Haiti at its fifty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 54/188

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 17 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/605/Add.3)

54/188. Situation of human rights in Rwanda

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the International Bill of Human Rights,[513] the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide[514] and other applicable human rights and humanitarian law standards,

Recalling its resolution 53/156 of 9 December 1998 and previous relevant resolutions, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/20 of 23 April 1999,[515]

Reaffirming that the promotion and protection of human rights are necessary for sustaining the process of national reconstruction and reconciliation in Rwanda,

Welcoming the commitment of the Government of Rwanda to promote and protect respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to eliminate impunity, the progress made towards the development of a State governed on the basis of the rule of law and the efforts undertaken to consolidate peace and stability and promote unity and reconciliation,

Recognizing that the promotion and protection of human rights for all are essential for achieving stability and security in the region,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Rwanda;[516]

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[511] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[512] See resolutions 2200 A (XXI), annex, and 44/128, annex.

[513] See resolutions 217 A (III), 2200 A (XXI), annex, and 44/128, annex.

[514] Resolution 260 A (III).

[515] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[516] See A/54/359.

2. *Reiterates its strong condemnation* of the crime of genocide and the crimes against humanity committed in Rwanda in 1994;

3. *Reaffirms* that all persons who committed or authorized acts of genocide or other grave violations of human rights and international law are individually responsible and accountable for those violations;

4. *Expresses concern* that most of the perpetrators of the genocide and other gross violations of human rights continue to evade justice;

5. *Also expresses concern* that, despite the imposition by the Security Council of an arms embargo which has remained in force since the genocide of 1994, the *Interahamwe* militias and the former members of the Rwandan armed forces continue to receive military, financial and logistical support, and in this regard calls upon the international community to take urgent measures to enable the disarmament of those groups in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Ceasefire Agreement, signed at Lusaka on 10 July 1999;[517]

6. *Reiterates its request* that all States cooperate fully, without delay, with the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 in ensuring that all those responsible for the crime of genocide, crimes against humanity and other grave violations of human rights are brought to justice in accordance with international principles of due process;

7. *Encourages* the International Tribunal for Rwanda to adopt further measures to enhance its efficiency and effectiveness;

8. *Notes* improvements in the situation of human rights in Rwanda since the fifty-third session of the General Assembly, expresses concern at those violations of human rights that are reported, and urges the Government of Rwanda to continue to investigate and prosecute such violations;

9. *Welcomes* the continuation of domestic trials of those suspected of genocide and crimes against humanity and the improvements that have been made in the trial process, and encourages the Government of Rwanda, with the support of the international community, to strengthen the capacity of the independent judicial system in accordance with international human rights standards;

10. *Encourages* the International Tribunal for Rwanda and the Government of Rwanda to continue to prosecute crimes of sexual violence committed against women during the genocide of 1994;

11. *Welcomes* the deliberations currently being conducted in Rwanda to determine new mechanisms to handle the large caseload of detainees awaiting trial on genocide and related charges in a more expeditious manner, notes in this regard the proposal of the Government of Rwanda to establish a complementary system of participatory justice, urges the Government of Rwanda to ensure that any such system is in conformity with the law and international human rights standards, and encourages the international community to assist in this area;

12. *Reiterates its appeal* to the international community to provide financial and technical assistance to the Government of Rwanda within a mutually agreed framework of cooperation to help to strengthen the protection of genocide survivors and witnesses and the administration of justice, including adequate access to legal representation to prosecute those responsible for genocide and other violations of human rights and to promote the rule of law in Rwanda, and notes with appreciation the assistance already provided by some members of the donor community;

13. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts of the Government of Rwanda to build a State based on the rule of law and the guarantee of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[518] and other relevant international human rights instruments;

14. *Notes* that in July 1999 the transitional Government mandate was extended for a further four years, commends the Government of Rwanda for holding elections at the cell and sector levels in a peaceful and successful manner, and supports the Government in the continuation of its democratization process;

15. *Commends* the Government of Rwanda for its continued efforts to improve the situation of children, and encourages it to continue with these efforts, guided by a concern for the best interests of children, as specified in the Convention on the Rights of the Child;[519]

16. *Welcomes* the establishment by legislation of the National Human Rights Commission, encourages the Government of Rwanda and the international community to provide their full support to the Commission to enable it to carry out its mandate to monitor human rights in the country effectively and independently, in accordance with internationally recognized norms, notes the convening of a Commission round-table meeting in October 1999, and urges the Government of Rwanda to pursue its recommendations;

17. *Encourages* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Government of Rwanda, other Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to provide, within a mutually agreed framework of cooperation, support for the reconstruction of a human rights infrastructure, including a strong civil society;

18. *Notes with appreciation* the continuing assistance provided to the National Human Rights Commission by the High Commissioner;

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[517] S/1999/815, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1999*.

[518] Resolution 217 A (III).

[519] Resolution 44/25, annex.

19. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Government of Rwanda to continue to promote national unity and reconciliation, and also welcomes the establishment by legislation of the National Unity and Reconciliation Commission as a basis for the promotion of tolerance and non-discrimination;

20. *Encourages* the National Unity and Reconciliation Commission and the National Human Rights Commission to work together closely to ensure the complementarity of their efforts;

21. *Reiterates its concern* at the conditions in many communal detention centres and some prisons in Rwanda, calls upon the Government of Rwanda to continue its efforts to ensure that persons in detention are treated in a manner that respects their human rights, emphasizes the need for greater attention and resources to be directed to this problem, and again urges the international community to assist the Government of Rwanda in this area;

22. *Encourages* the continuing efforts of the Government of Rwanda to reduce the prison population by releasing minors, elderly prisoners, prisoners suffering from terminal illnesses and suspects with incomplete files who were detained for their alleged involvement in genocide and other abuses of human rights, and reaffirms the urgent need to complete a dossier for every detainee with a view to identifying those who should be formally charged and those who should be released immediately, early or conditionally;

23. *Encourages* the Government of Rwanda, in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to continue to provide protection and assistance to returnees to Rwanda;

24. *Notes* the initiative by the Government of Rwanda to regroup scattered rural populations in the country under a programme of villagization in order to facilitate community development infrastructure, and urges the Government of Rwanda to ensure that the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all are respected in the implementation of this programme;

25. *Calls* for close regular consultation between the Special Representative and the Government of Rwanda, the National Human Rights Commission and all relevant national institutions regarding the functioning of the Commission;

26. *Decides* to keep the situation of human rights in Rwanda under consideration at its fifty-fifth session, in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council.

VI. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

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RESOLUTIONS 54/13 A and B

A

Adopted at the 43rd plenary meeting, on 29 October 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/506)

B

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/506/Add.1)

54/13. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

A

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 50/222 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 E of 17 June 1997 and 52/212 B of 31 March 1998,

Having considered the report of the Board of Auditors on United Nations peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998,[1] the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[2] and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors concerning United Nations peacekeeping operations for that period,[3]

1. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report,[1] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. *Decides* to consider the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on contingent-owned equipment and the recommendation contained in paragraph 70 of its report under sub-item (*a*), entitled "Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations" of agenda item 151, entitled "Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations".

B

The General Assembly,

Having considered, for the year ended 31 December 1998, the audited financial statements and the report of the Board of Auditors on voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,[4] the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors,[5] the report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of its recommendations,[6] the report of the Secretary-General on the year 2000 compliance issue,[7] the report of the Secretary-General on the hiring and use of consultants in the Secretariat[8] and the comments of the Board of Auditors thereon,[9] and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[10]

1. *Notes* the measures taken by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;

2. *Accepts* the audited financial statements and the report of the Board of Auditors on voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;[4]

3. *Approves* all the recommendations and conclusions contained in the report of the Board of Auditors, and endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[10] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Commends* the Board of Auditors for the improvement in the format of its report;

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;[5]

6. *Accepts* the report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of its recommendations;[6]

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the hiring and use of consultants in the Secretariat[8] and the comments of the Board of Auditors thereon;[9]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to implement the guidelines for the hiring and use of consultants and individual contractors in the Secretariat, in full conformity with the provisions of section VIII of its resolution 53/221 of 7 April 1999;

9. *Requests* the Board of Auditors to monitor the implementation of the guidelines for the hiring and use of consultants and individual contractors in the Secretariat as revised by the General Assembly in paragraph 11 of section VIII of its resolution 53/221;

10. *Also requests* the Board of Auditors to monitor the implementation of the provisions of section VIII of its resolution 53/221 on consultants and individual contractors.

RESOLUTION 54/14

Adopted at the 43rd plenary meeting, on 29 October 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/511)

54/14. Procurement reform

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/214 B and 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 52/212 B of 31 March 1998, 52/252 of 8 September 1998 and 53/204 and 53/208 B of 18 December 1998,

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 5* (A/53/5), vol. II, chap. II.

[2] A/53/940.

[3] A/53/932.

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 5E* (A/54/5/Add.5).

[5] A/54/140 and Add.1.

[6] A/54/159 and Corr.1, appendix.

[7] A/C.5/54/3.

[8] A/54/164.

[9] A/54/165, appendix.

[10] A/54/441.

Reaffirming its resolutions 49/216 C of 23 December 1994, 51/231 of 13 June 1997 and 52/226 A of 31 March 1998,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on procurement reform[11] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[12]

Recognizing that the procurement procedures should be more transparent, effective and efficient and should fully reflect the international character of the United Nations,

Noting the initial efforts to increase procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and stressing the need for further improvement in this respect,

I

GENERAL COMMENT

1. *Recognizes* the recent improvements made by the Secretary-General in procurement reform;

2. *Notes with concern* that some of the provisions of its resolution 52/226 A have not been fully and adequately implemented, and requests the Secretary-General to complete the implementation of all outstanding provisions;

3. *Stresses* the need for the procurement system to be transparent, open, impartial and cost-effective, based on competitive bidding and fully reflecting the international character of the United Nations;

II

PROCUREMENT MANUAL

4. *Welcomes* the publication of the Procurement Manual, and requests the Secretary-General to update it, as appropriate, taking into account the recommendations of the Board of Auditors in paragraphs 99 to 104 of its report[13] and including a step-by-step discussion of procedures required for field personnel to perform their duties;

III

GENERAL PROCUREMENT PROCESS

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure that the bids received through electronic means are not compromised and to report on this in his next report on procurement reform;

6. *Endorses* the observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions regarding the need to take steps to ensure that specifications are not deliberately tailored to predetermine the choice of supplier and that the principle of separation of responsibilities of the requisitioning and approving officers is maintained;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure wider participation of suppliers from all Member States, taking into account the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to improve further the competitive bidding process in order to ensure that vendors are granted reasonable time for the submission of bids;

9. *Welcomes* the increased use by the Secretary-General of modern electronic means of communication to disseminate information regarding requests for proposals, invitations to bid and requests for expression of interest, and requests him to continue to utilize traditional means of communication for such information upon request;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider ways to increase the transparency of procurement decisions, including the possibility of reviving the practice of the reading of prices and other decisive elements at public bid openings for requests for proposals, and to report thereon in his next report on procurement reform;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to enhance and expedite the procurement process and to improve communication with suppliers;

IV

UNITED NATIONS ROSTER AND COMMON SUPPLIER DATABASE

12. *Notes* the efforts of the United Nations system to establish a common supplier database whereby participating organizations will be able to share information on suppliers, including evaluations of performance;

13. *Regrets* that the supplier roster is still not representative of the membership of the United Nations, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to intensify further and to focus his efforts to broaden the geographical base of the roster;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to improve further the registration process for the supplier roster;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to send invitations to tender, to the fullest extent possible, to all vendors registered under specific categories and services on the supplier roster;

16. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to explore the possibility of using the harmonized system of classification of goods for United Nations procurement and to report thereon in his next report on procurement reform;

V

PROCUREMENT PLANNING

17. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to improve annual procurement planning for all offices and departments and to make such plans publicly available, including to all permanent missions to the United Nations;

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[11] A/C.5/52/46 and A/53/271 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

[12] A/53/692.

[13] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 5* (A/53/5), vol. I.

VI

EXIGENCY

18. *Notes with concern* the observations of the Advisory Committee[14] that the definition of exigency as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General[15] appears too broad to be of any real value in exercising the required control over the use of the exigency provision, and urges the Secretary-General to submit a sharper and clearer definition of exigency needs to the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee, at its fifty-fourth session;

VII

INCREASING PROCUREMENT FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

19. *Notes with appreciation* the acknowledgement by the Secretary-General of the need to increase procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition and the steps taken in this regard, and requests him to enhance those efforts;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit in his next report on procurement reform detailed information on the awarding of contracts for procurement, at Headquarters and in the field, to developing countries, in particular least developed and African countries and countries with economies in transition;

21. *Regrets* the initial delay in implementing the provisions of paragraph 13 of its resolution 52/226 A, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to take all possible measures to increase procurement from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including the following:

(*a*) All invitations to tender should be posted on the Procurement Division website as soon as they are prepared;

(*b*) All invitations to tender should be sent to all permanent missions to the United Nations, as well as to all United Nations information centres and other United Nations offices away from Headquarters for wider dissemination among Member States;

(*c*) Procurement Division officials may undertake visits to developing countries and countries with economies in transition with a view to identifying potential vendors from those countries;

22. *Notes with concern* the observations of the Advisory Committee in paragraph 9 of its report[12] that, out of the eleven countries visited by the procurement officials pursuant to paragraph 13 (*c*) of its resolution 52/226 A, only four were from the developing world and none were countries with economies in transition;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make all possible efforts to facilitate the identification of vendors in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including through the expeditious dissemination of information relating to procurement to those countries and the organization of seminars at the country and regional levels between the business community and United Nations offices in those countries;

24. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to direct field offices to encourage interested local vendors to apply for registration on the Procurement Division vendor roster with a view to broadening its geographical base;

25. *Encourages* the use of procurement within the region for the requirements of missions, taking into account efficiency and cost-effectiveness;

VIII

QUESTION OF PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT

26. *Reaffirms its request* to the Secretary-General to examine ways to increase opportunities for developing countries in the awarding of procurement contracts, in particular for least developed countries, African countries and countries with economies in transition, taking into account the experience of preferential treatment in this regard in the funds and programmes of United Nations organizations and other intergovernmental institutions, and to report thereon to the General Assembly in his next report on procurement reform;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore ways to increase the procurement of goods and services from developing countries, in particular from least developed and African countries, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

28. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on due attention paid to offers for procurement submitted by vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, without prejudice to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and taking into account the provisions of the present resolution;

IX

REGULATIONS AND RULES

29. *Reiterates the request* contained in paragraph 4 of its resolution 52/226 A;

30. *Regrets* that the request contained in paragraph 28 of its resolution 52/226 A for the submission of proposals on possible amendments to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, in order to address issues of potential conflict of interest, has not been fulfilled, and requests the Secretary-General to submit the proposals as a matter of priority, but not later than the end of its fifty-fourth session;

31. *Looks forward* to the submission of the text of the additional rules requested in paragraph 10 of its resolution 52/252, as a matter of priority, but not later than the end of its fifty-fourth session;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make proposals for improving the system of payment to suppliers, including possible mechanisms similar to letters of credit;

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[14] A/53/692, para. 10.

[15] A/C.5/52/46, para. 5.

X

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop a comprehensive system to measure the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the procurement function, by taking into account the best practices of other organizations of the United Nations system in his next report on procurement reform;

XI

REPORTS OF THE BOARD OF AUDITORS

34. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement fully the provisions of paragraphs 3 and 4 of its resolution 52/212 B regarding the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;

35. *Reiterates the request* contained in paragraph 6 of its resolution 53/204 addressed to the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the United Nations funds and programmes to ensure timely implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors as approved in that resolution;

XII

FORMAT FOR REPORTS

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop a standard format for future reports on procurement reform;

37. *Emphasizes* that the reports of the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee on procurement reform should be submitted in accordance with paragraphs 24 and 25 of its resolution 52/214 B and paragraphs 10 to 12 of its resolution 53/208 B;

XIII

METHOD OF DETERMINING THE BASIS OF STATISTICAL REPORTS

38. *Endorses* the observations of the Advisory Committee in paragraph 8 of its report,[12] and requests the Secretary-General to indicate on what basis the country of procurement is determined and how this methodology compares with recognized international practice.

RESOLUTION 54/15

Adopted at the 43rd plenary meeting, on 29 October 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/508)

54/15. Development Account

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/12 B of 19 December 1997 and 52/220 and 52/221 A of 22 December 1997,

Reaffirming its resolutions 52/235 of 26 June 1998, 53/220 A of 7 April 1999 and 53/220 B of 8 June 1999,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the Development Account[16] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[17]

Reaffirming its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986,

Reaffirming also the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,

1. *Decides* to establish a special multi-year account for supplementary development activities based on the priority objectives of the programmes of the approved medium-term plan;

2. *Emphasizes* that the efficiency measures and the transfer of savings therefrom should not lead to a process of budgetary reduction and should not result in the involuntary separation of staff;

3. *Also emphasizes* that the efficiency measures and the redeployment of savings to the Development Account should not adversely affect the full implementation of all mandated programmes and activities;

4. *Decides* that savings to be achieved as a result of the efficiency measures can be identified in the context of budget performance reports and shall be transferred to the Development Account section with the prior approval of the General Assembly;

5. *Also decides* that the savings transferred to the Development Account section in accordance with paragraph 4 above shall form the maintenance base for that section in future proposed programme budgets;

6. *Reaffirms* that the Development Account should be operated strictly in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all budget proposals are fully commensurate with the related mandates in order to ensure their full and effective implementation;

8. *Decides* to keep the implementation of the Development Account under review, and requests the Secretary-General to submit reports in accordance with the relevant regulations and rules.

RESOLUTION 54/16

Adopted at the 43rd plenary meeting, on 29 October 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/507)

54/16. Joint Inspection Unit

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the Joint Inspection Unit, hereafter referred to as the Unit, in particular resolution 50/233 of 7 June 1996,

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[16] A/53/945.

[17] A/53/7/Add.12. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 7.*

Having considered the annual reports of the Unit for the periods 1 July 1995 to 30 June 1996[18] and 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997,[19] its programme of work for 1996–1997[20] and for 1997–1998,[21] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the note by the Unit regarding the cycle for its programme of work[22] and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Unit,[23]

Reaffirming the statute of the Unit, the only independent system-wide inspection, evaluation and investigation body,

Stressing again that the impact of the Unit on the cost-effectiveness of activities within the United Nations system is a shared responsibility of the Member States, the Unit and the secretariats of the participating organizations,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the annual reports of the Unit for the periods from 1 July 1995 to 30 June 1996[18] and 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997,[19] of its programme of work for 1996–1997,[20] for 1997–1998,[21] and for 1999,[24] of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the note by the Unit regarding the cycle for its programme of work[22] and of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Unit;[23]

2. *Invites* the Unit, while preparing its annual programme of work, to give priority to the reports requested by the participating organizations;

3. *Recognizes* the improvements made in the functioning of the Unit, encourages the Unit to continue its efforts in this respect, and decides to revert to the issue of the functioning of the Unit at its fifty-sixth session;

4. *Endorses* the system of follow-up to the reports of the Unit, as contained in annex I to the annual report of the Unit for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997,[19] and, in this connection, invites the Unit:

(*a*) To send reminders/notices for the implementation of recommendations to the executive heads of the participating organizations;

(*b*) To include in its annual reports approved recommendations that have not been implemented;

5. *Requests* that the system be implemented expeditiously;

6. *Requests* the Unit to report on experience with the system, including action taken and comments made by participating organizations, to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

RESOLUTION 54/17

Adopted at the 43rd plenary meeting, on 29 October 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/504)

54/17. Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission and the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/8 A of 31 October 1997, 52/8 C of 26 June 1998, 53/211 of 18 December 1998 and 53/228 of 8 June 1999,

Regretting the delay in the submission of the report of the Secretary-General requested in the aforementioned resolutions,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[25] on the findings, observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audits of the procurement process in the United Nations Angola Verification Mission;[26]

2. *Notes with concern* that one of the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services was based on incomplete information provided to the Office;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to examine carefully the internal audit recommendations before taking remedial action;

4. *Expresses concern* over the lack of a consistent policy for the implementation of audit recommendations in respect of cases of fraud and financial abuse;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that audit recommendations in respect of cases of fraud and financial abuse are implemented in a consistent manner throughout the Secretariat;

6. *Calls* for further efforts to provide proper training and guidance to procurement officers in the field, especially in view of the expansion of United Nations peacekeeping activities;

7. *Looks forward* to the report of the Secretary-General on the procurement of goods for quartering areas of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission;

8. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to provide additional information on the measures being taken by the Secretariat further to improve procurement activities in the field and to enhance control and accountability, within the context of the report on management irregularities causing financial losses to the Organization, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 53/225 of 8 June 1999, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the

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[18] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 34* (A/51/34).

[19] Ibid., *Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 34* (A/52/34).

[20] See A/51/559 and Corr.1.

[21] See A/52/267.

[22] See A/53/180.

[23] A/52/206.

[24] See A/53/841.

[25] A/53/1018.

[26] A/52/881, annex.

General Assembly, prior to the second part of its resumed fifty-fourth session, providing a concrete plan to correct procurement-related problems in peacekeeping operations, which should include the following:

(*a*) All remedial measures taken to address problems identified with regard to the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola and other peacekeeping operations;

(*b*) Standardization of the corrective measures that have already been taken for all existing and future peacekeeping operations;

(*c*) A description of how accountability was pursued in the cases of individuals who were found to have engaged in fraud, mismanagement or abuse, and how accountability measures will be applied in the future.

RESOLUTION 54/18

Adopted at the 43rd plenary meeting, on 29 October 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/510)

54/18. Financing of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/238 of 26 June 1998 and 53/229 of 8 June 1999,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission[27] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[28]

1. *Notes with deep concern* the mishandling of this matter by the Administration, as observed by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraph 4 of its report;[28]

2. *Requests* the Board of Auditors to undertake a comprehensive audit of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission, in particular the question of the payment of mission subsistence allowance, as a matter of priority;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on this question within a period not exceeding three months following the adoption of the present resolution, for consideration during the first part of its resumed fifty-fourth session;

4. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question during the first part of its resumed fifty-fourth session in the light of the reports of the Board of Auditors and the Secretary-General, and decides that, pending its decision, all actions on this question should remain in abeyance.

RESOLUTION 54/19

Adopted at the 43rd plenary meeting, on 29 October 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/509)

54/19. Reformed procedures for determining reimbursement to Member States for contingent-owned equipment

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 45/248 B, section VI, of 21 December 1990 and rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly,

Recalling also its resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994,

Reaffirming its resolutions 50/222 of 11 April 1996 and 51/218 E of 17 June 1997,

Having considered the report of the Phase IV Working Group on Reimbursement of Contingent-owned Equipment[29] as transmitted by the Chairman of the Working Group to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee, the report of the Secretary-General on the first full year of implementation of the reformed procedures for determining reimbursement to Member States for contingent-owned equipment[30] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[31]

1. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, while implementing the approved reformed procedures for determining reimbursement to Member States for contingent-owned equipment, to avoid any double payment;

3. *Approves* a general policy whereby the United Nations should only assume financial responsibilities in accordance with the decisions of the General Assembly;

4. *Emphasizes* that the intent of the new procedures on reimbursement of contingent-owned equipment is to ensure equitable reimbursement to the troop-contributing countries while ensuring the interests of Member States and the United Nations;

5. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Phase IV Working Group on Reimbursement of Contingent-owned Equipment,[29] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

6. *Also endorses* the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report,[31] with the exception of the following proposals, relating to:

(*a*) The levels of reimbursement for loss or damage to contingent-owned equipment in cases of hostile action or forced abandonment, as contained in paragraph 15;

(*b*) The review regarding United Nations responsibility for loss or damage during transportation, as contained in paragraph 16;

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[27] A/53/1023.

[28] A/54/418.

[29] See A/C.5/52/39.

[30] A/53/465.

[31] A/53/944 and Corr.1.

(*c*) Tentage and accommodation, as contained in paragraph 27;

(*d*) The use of independent outside expertise in the review and assessment of the generic fair market value of equipment, as contained in paragraph 31;

7. *Reaffirms* that, with regard to all new missions activated since 1 July 1996, only the reformed procedures for reimbursement to Member States for contingent-owned equipment are applicable;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to ensure the full participation of delegations in the work of the Phase V Working Group;

9. *Emphasizes* that the revision of the contingent-owned equipment manual should be a continuous process, and requests the Secretary-General to revise the manual only after the completion of the work of the Phase V Working Group, in order to incorporate recommendations made by the Phase II, III, IV and V Working Groups, as approved by the General Assembly;

10. *Requests* the Board of Auditors to continue to audit the implementation of the reformed procedures for determining reimbursement to Member States for contingent-owned equipment and to report thereon in the context of its annual report to the General Assembly.

RESOLUTION 54/20

Adopted at the 43rd plenary meeting, on 29 October 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/505)

54/20. Financing of the United Nations Mission in East Timor

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in East Timor[32] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[33]

Recalling its resolution 53/240 of 29 June 1999, wherein it appropriated an amount of 52,531,100 United States dollars gross for the Mission and decided that the amount to be assessed would be determined after the review of the report which the Secretary-General would submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, taking into account voluntary contributions received,

Commending all United Nations missions for their continuing efforts to implement effectively their mandated activities,

Reaffirming the international character of the United Nations,

1. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[33]

2. *Reiterates* that the expenses of the Organization shall be borne by Member States as apportioned by the General Assembly;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that staff in all United Nations missions continue to respect the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

4. *Urges* all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the United Nations Mission in East Timor in full and on time;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

8. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

9. *Notes* that voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the Settlement of the Question of East Timor paid and pledged so far amount to 43,834,700 dollars and in-kind contributions are valued at 3,438,700 dollars;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* to all those Member States that have made voluntary contributions to the Mission;

11. *Decides* to revise the level of appropriation to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission in East Timor for the period 5 May 1999 to 30 September 1999 (phase I) to a total amount of 54,428,400 dollars gross (52,941,100 dollars net);

12. *Also decides* to apportion the amount of 7,155,000 dollars gross (5,667,700 dollars net) among Member States, in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1999, as set out in its resolution 52/215 A of 22 December 1997;

13. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments up to 28,037,100 dollars gross (27,080,700 dollars net), in addition to the commitment authority up to 10 million dollars granted by the Advisory Committee on 9 September 1999, for the requirements of phase II of the Mission, pending the submission of a revised budget by the Secretary-General.

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[32] A/54/380.

[33] A/54/406.

RESOLUTION 54/236

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/676)

54/236. Programme planning

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its thirty-ninth session,[14]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its thirty-ninth session;[14]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Committee regarding the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations, programme planning and the provisional agenda for the fortieth session of the Committee;

3. *Also endorses* the conclusions and recommendations on coordination questions contained in paragraphs 560 to 565, 567 and 568, and 587 to 596 of the report of the Committee;

4. *Notes* that, in the context of coordination questions, the proposals relating to performance indicators requested by the Committee and contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative for the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s[15] have not been approved by the General Assembly;

5. *Also notes* that the matter addressed in paragraph 566 of the report of the Committee is being considered by the General Assembly under a separate agenda item;

6. *Urges* the Secretary-General to issue, as soon as possible, the revisions to the relevant rules of the revised Regulations Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation adopted by the General Assembly at its fifty-third session,[16] taking fully into account the recommendations of the Committee contained in paragraph 47 of its report;

7. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the item entitled "Programme planning" during its resumed fifty-fourth session.

RESOLUTIONS 54/237 A to C

A

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/685)

B

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/685)

C

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/685)

54/237. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/1, 54/2 and 54/3 of 14 September 1999,

Recalling also the recommendations of the Committee on Contributions with respect to the assessment of the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of Nauru and the Kingdom of Tonga as non-member States,[17]

Recalling further its resolutions 52/215 A of 22 December 1997 and 53/36 E of 18 December 1998 and its decision 47/456 of 23 December 1992,

1. *Decides* that the rate of assessment for the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of Nauru and the Kingdom of Tonga, admitted to membership of the United Nations on 14 September 1999, should be 0.001 per cent for the years 1999 and 2000;

2. *Also decides* that the contributions of the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of Nauru and the Kingdom of Tonga for the year 1999 should be calculated on the basis of one twelfth of their rate of assessment for the year 1999 per full calendar month of membership and that a corresponding adjustment should be made in their assessments for the year 1999 as non-member States;

3. *Further decides* that the contributions of the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of Nauru and the Kingdom of Tonga for the years 1999 and 2000 should otherwise be applied to the same basis of assessment as for other Member States, except that, in the case of appropriations or apportionments approved by the General Assembly for the financing of peacekeeping operations, the contributions of the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of Nauru and the Kingdom of Tonga, as determined by the group of Member States to which they may be assigned by the Assembly, should be calculated in proportion to the calendar year;

4. *Decides* that the 1999 assessments of the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of Nauru and the Kingdom of Tonga should be taken into account as miscellaneous income in accordance with regulation 5.2 (*c*) of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

5. *Also decides* that, for the year 2000, the rate of assessment for the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of Nauru

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[14] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/54/16).

[15] E/AC.51/1999/6.

[16] See resolution 53/207, sect. III.

[17] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/51/11), sect. V; and ibid., *Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/53/11), chap. V.

and the Kingdom of Tonga should be added to the scale of assessments established by the General Assembly in its resolution 52/215 A;

6. *Further decides* that, in accordance with financial regulation 5.8, the advances of the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of Nauru and the Kingdom of Tonga to the Working Capital Fund should be calculated by the application of their rate of assessment of 0.001 per cent to the authorized level of the Fund and should be added to the Fund pending the incorporation of their rate of assessment in a 100 per cent scale.

B

The General Assembly,

Having considered the relevant part of the report of the Committee on Contributions on its fifty-ninth session,[38]

Recalling its resolution 53/36 C of 18 December 1998,

1. *Decides* that the Committee on Contributions should not consider further the questions covered in paragraphs 69 and 70 as well as 73 and 74 of its report;

2. *Requests* the Committee further to consider measures to encourage the timely, full and unconditional payment of assessed contributions and to make appropriate recommendations, pursuant to its general mandate under paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 14 A (I) of 13 February 1946.

C

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/207 B of 11 April 1996, 52/215 B of 22 December 1997 and 53/36 B to D of 18 December 1998,

Having considered the relevant parts of the report of the Committee on Contributions on its fifty-ninth session,[39]

Reaffirming the obligation of all Member States to bear the expenses of the United Nations, as apportioned by the General Assembly, in conformity with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the fundamental principle that the expenses of the Organization should be apportioned among Member States broadly according to their capacity to pay, as specified in rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly,

1. *Urges* all Member States to pay their assessed contributions in full, on time and without imposing conditions, to prevent financial difficulties for the United Nations;

2. *Reaffirms* its role in accordance with the provisions of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations and the advisory role of the Committee on Contributions in accordance with rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

3. *Urges* all Member States in arrears requesting exemption under Article 19 of the Charter to provide the fullest possible supporting information, including information on economic aggregates, government revenues and expenditure, foreign exchange resources, indebtedness, difficulties in meeting domestic or international financial obligations and any other information that might support the claim that failure to make necessary payments had been attributable to conditions beyond the control of the Member States;

4. *Decides* that requests for exemption under Article 19 of the Charter must be submitted by Member States to the President of the General Assembly at least two weeks before the session of the Committee, so as to ensure a complete review of the requests.

RESOLUTION 54/238

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/677)

54/238. United Nations common system: report of the International Civil Service Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the International Civil Service Commission for the year 1999[40] and other related reports,[41]

Reaffirming its commitment to a single, unified United Nations common system as the cornerstone for the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

Convinced that the common system constitutes the best instrument to secure staff of the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity for the international civil service, as stipulated under the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the central role of the Commission in the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

Reaffirming also the statute of the Commission,

I

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE OF STAFF IN THE PROFESSIONAL AND HIGHER CATEGORIES

A. *Noblemaire principle and its application*

Recalling its resolution 44/198 of 21 December 1989 and other relevant resolutions,

1. *Reaffirms* the continued application of the Noblemaire principle;

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[38] Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/54/11), chap. IV, sect. C.

[39] Ibid., sects. A and B.

[40] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifth-fourth Session, Supplement No. 30* (A/54/30).

[41] A/54/434, A/54/483 and A/C.5/54/24.

2. *Also reaffirms* the need to continue to ensure the competitiveness of the conditions of service of the common system;

B. *Evolution of the margin*

Recalling section I.B of its resolution 52/216 of 22 December 1997 and the standing mandate from the General Assembly, in which the Commission is requested to continue its review of the relationship between the net remuneration of the United Nations staff in the Professional and higher categories in New York and that of the comparator civil service (the United States federal civil service) employees in comparable positions in Washington, D.C. (referred to as "the margin"),

Recalling also section IX, paragraph 3, of its resolution 46/191 A of 20 December 1991, in which it requested the Commission to include in its work a review of the differences between the United Nations and the United States net remuneration at individual grade levels,

Recalling further section II.B, paragraph 3, of its resolution 48/224 of 23 December 1993, wherein it considered that the Commission should address the imbalance in the United Nations/United States remuneration ratios in the context of overall margin considerations,

1. *Notes* the view of the Commission that, bearing in mind the imbalance in the margin levels, a recommendation for a differentiated salary increase by grades would need to be submitted to the General Assembly at the time of any future recommendation for a real salary increase;

2. *Also notes* that the margin between the net remuneration of United Nations staff in grades P-1 to D-2 in New York and that of officials in comparable positions in the United States federal civil service for 1999 is 114.1;

C. *Base/floor salary scale*

Recalling section I.H of its resolution 44/198, by which it established a floor net salary level for staff in the Professional and higher categories by reference to the corresponding base net salary levels of officials in comparable positions serving at the base city of the comparator civil service (the United States federal civil service),

1. *Approves*, with effect from 1 March 2000, the revised base scale of gross and net salaries for staff in the Professional and higher categories, contained in annex I to the present resolution, and the consequential amendment to the Staff Regulations of the United Nations, as reflected in section A of annex II to the present resolution;

2. *Decides* that, with effect from 1 March 2000, the staff assessment amounts at various grades and steps for those receiving remuneration at the single rate will be determined in accordance with the procedure outlined in section B of annex II to the present resolution;

D. *Post adjustment at Geneva*

Recalling section I.B of its resolution 50/208 of 23 December 1995, section I.E of its resolution 51/216 of 18 December 1996, section I.D of its resolution 52/216 and section I.G of its resolution 53/209 of 18 December 1998, related to the establishment of a single post adjustment index in respect of staff members whose duty station is Geneva,

1. *Takes note* of the views and conclusions of the Commission contained in paragraphs 36 and 37 of its report;[40]

2. *Reiterates its request* to the Commission to prepare a comprehensive review of the post adjustment system along the lines requested in section I.G of resolution 53/209 and to include in that report indicative statistics and its views on legal and administrative aspects of the following options:

(*a*) Establishment of a single post adjustment index based on prices at Geneva and the bordering areas in France;

(*b*) Establishment of two separate post adjustment indices, one based on Geneva prices and the other based on prices in the bordering areas in France;

(*c*) Establishment of a single post adjustment index for Geneva and the surrounding cantons;

(*d*) Establishment of a single post adjustment index based on the comparison of prices of goods and services at Geneva with those applicable in New York (Manhattan only);

(*e*) Maintenance of the status quo;

E. *Separation of housing from post adjustment*

Recalling section III, paragraph 4, of its resolution 45/241 of 21 December 1990, in which it requested the Commission to establish a pilot project designed to simulate the operation of the proposals of the Commission in a limited number of duty stations in the field where valid housing comparisons were difficult or impossible,

Takes note of the decision of the Commission, set out in paragraph 99 of its report,[40] not to pursue further the issue of the separation of housing from post adjustment at small field duty stations;

II

REMUNERATION OF THE GENERAL SERVICE AND OTHER LOCALLY RECRUITED CATEGORIES OF STAFF

A. *Review of the basis for the dependent children's allowance*

Recalling section II.C of its resolution 52/216,

1. *Endorses* the decision of the Commission, set out in paragraph 110 (*a*) of its report,[40] that the social benefit approach for the payment of the children's allowance should continue to be maintained;

2. *Notes* the intention of the Commission to review the floor formula under the above-mentioned approach in 2001;

B. *Survey of best prevailing conditions of employment in Paris*

Recalling section II.A of its resolution 52/216, in which it reaffirmed that the Flemming principle should continue to serve as the basis for determining the conditions of service of the General Service and related categories and endorsed the revised methodology for surveys of best prevailing conditions of employment for these categories;

Takes note of the results of the salary survey conducted in Paris, as reported in paragraphs 111 to 118 of the report of the Commission;[40]

III

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE APPLICABLE TO BOTH CATEGORIES OF STAFF

A. *Framework for human resources management*

Recalling its resolutions 51/216, 52/216 and 53/209,

1. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Commission regarding the development of an integrated framework for human resources management;

2. *Takes note* of the conclusions and decisions of the Commission contained in paragraphs 173 to 177 of its report;[40]

3. *Requests* the Commission to continue its work in accordance with the programme outlined in paragraph 176 of its report;

B. *Standards of conduct for the international civil service*

Recalling paragraph 13 of its resolution 52/252 of 8 September 1998,

Takes note of the decisions of the Commission contained in paragraphs 200 and 201 of its report;[40]

C. *Education grant*

Recalling section II.D, paragraph 2, of its resolution 48/224, in which it requested the Commission to study expatriate entitlements with a view to harmonizing the practices of organizations with those of the United Nations and to make recommendations thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session,

1. *Requests* the Commission to complete the review of the methodology for the education grant, as well as a review of the purpose, scope, application of and controls for the education grant, and to report the results to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

2. *Also requests* the Commission, in conjunction with that review, to report specifically on harmonizing education grant practices with those of the United Nations, as called for in General Assembly resolution 48/224;

IV

AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION TO THE STATUTE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AD HOC ADVISORY PANEL OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General,[42]

1. *Takes note* of the comments of the Commission as outlined in paragraphs 206 to 215 of its report;[40]

2. *Reaffirms* the statute of the Commission;

V

REVIEW OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Recalling paragraph 22 of its resolution 52/12 B of 19 December 1997,

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General on the review of the Commission,[43]

1. *Emphasizes* that the review process should be impartial and transparent, and that the Commission shall participate fully in the process;

2. *Decides* to revert to the consideration of the modalities of the review of the Commission, including the proposal of the Secretary-General contained in his note,[43] at the main part of its fifty-fifth session, subject to the submission by the Secretary-General of the information requested in paragraph 22 of General Assembly resolution 52/12 B;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include the following elements in the information to be submitted to the General Assembly:

(*a*) Concrete and specific reasons, if any, for such a review;

(*b*) Identification of specific problems, if any, to be addressed;

(*c*) Objectives to be achieved by the review;

(*d*) Possible impact on the common system of such a review;

(*e*) Information on progress achieved as a result of previous reviews of the working methods and functioning of the Commission.

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[42] A/C.5/54/24.

[43] A/54/483.

ANNEX I

Salary scale for staff in the Professional and higher categories showing annual gross salaries and net equivalents after application of staff assessment[a]

(United States dollars)

(Effective 1 March 2000)

Level		*I*	*II*	*III*	*IV*	*V*	*VI*	*VII*	*VIII*	*IX*	*X*	*XI*	*XII*	*XIII*	*XIV*	*XV*
Under-Secretary-General																
USG	Gross	158 132														
	Net D	108 242														
	Net S	97 411														
Assistant Secretary-General																
ASG	Gross	143 674														
	Net D	99 278														
	Net S	89 899														
Director																
D-2	Gross	117 550	120 165	122 777	125 389	128 002	130 615									
	Net D	83 081	84 702	86 322	87 941	89 561	91 181									
	Net S	76 325	77 683	79 041	80 398	81 756	83 113									
Principal Officer																
D-1	Gross	103 763	106 000	108 239	110 471	112 710	114 947	117 185	119 423	121 658						
	Net D	74 533	75 920	77 308	78 692	80 080	81 467	82 855	84 242	85 628						
	Net S	68 893	70 112	71 329	72 545	73 763	74 972	76 135	77 297	78 459						
Senior Officer																
P-5	Gross	91 215	93 239	95 265	97 289	99 313	101 335	103 361	105 385	107 408	109 434	111 458	113 481	115 505		
	Net D	66 753	68 008	69 264	70 519	71 774	73 028	74 284	75 539	76 793	78 049	79 304	80 558	81 811		
	Net S	62 014	63 164	64 267	65 370	66 471	67 572	68 674	69 776	70 878	71 980	73 082	74 183	75 262		
First Officer																
P-4	Gross	75 424	77 282	79 135	80 986	82 844	84 697	86 552	88 406	90 279	92 252	94 224	96 202	98 174	100 148	102 124
	Net D	56 380	57 606	58 829	60 051	61 277	62 500	63 724	64 948	66 173	67 396	68 619	69 845	71 068	72 292	73 517
	Net S	52 503	53 629	54 751	55 872	56 996	58 116	59 238	60 360	61 481	62 603	63 701	64 778	65 852	66 926	68 002
Second Officer																
P-3	Gross	61 730	63 473	65 217	66 956	68 700	70 441	72 182	73 926	75 668	77 411	79 153	80 894	82 636	84 377	86 121
	Net D	47 342	48 492	49 643	50 791	51 942	53 091	54 240	55 391	56 541	57 691	58 841	59 990	61 140	62 289	63 440
	Net S	44 191	45 248	46 307	47 364	48 422	49 479	50 536	51 594	52 650	53 708	54 762	55 816	56 870	57 923	58 977
Associate Officer																
P-2	Gross	50 349	51 779	53 206	54 635	56 063	57 490	58 919	60 377	61 938	63 495	65 052	66 612			
	Net D	39 251	40 281	41 308	42 337	43 365	44 393	45 422	46 449	47 479	48 507	49 534	50 564			
	Net S	36 815	37 749	38 680	39 612	40 543	41 477	42 424	43 368	44 317	45 263	46 208	47 155			
Assistant Officer																
P-1	Gross	38 988	40 363	41 735	43 108	44 479	45 851	47 226	48 599	49 969	51 343					
	Net D	31 071	32 061	33 049	34 038	35 025	36 013	37 003	37 991	38 978	39 967					
	Net S	29 310	30 221	31 131	32 043	32 953	33 863	34 775	35 674	36 568	37 465					

D = Rate applicable to staff members with a dependent spouse or child.

S = Rate applicable to staff members with no dependent spouse or child.

[a] This scale will be implemented in conjunction with a consolidation of 3.42 per cent of post adjustment. There will be consequential adjustments in post adjustment indices and multipliers at all duty stations effective 1 March 2000. Thereafter, changes in post adjustment classifications will be implemented on the basis of the movements of the consolidated post adjustment indices.

ANNEX II

Amendments to the Staff Regulations of the United Nations

Regulation 3.3

Replace the second table in paragraph (*b*) (i) with the following:

Staff assessment rates to be used in conjunction with gross base salaries

(Effective 1 March 2000)

A. *Staff assessment rates for staff members with dependants*

Assessable payments (United States dollars)	*Staff assessment rates for staff members with a dependent spouse or a dependent child (Percentage)*
First 30 000 per year	18
Next 30 000 per year	28
Next 30 000 per year	34
Remaining assessable payments	38

B. *Staff assessment for staff members without dependants*

Staff assessment amounts for staff members with neither a dependent spouse nor a dependent child are equal to the differences between the gross salaries at different grades and steps and the corresponding net salaries at the single rate.

RESOLUTION 54/239

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/678)

54/239. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991[44] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[45]

Recalling its resolution 47/235 of 14 September 1993 on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 53/212 of 18 December 1998,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for 1998[46] and the comments of the Advisory Committee thereon,[47]

1. *Deeply regrets* the delay in the submission of the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991,[44] as well as the failure to submit to the General Assembly the report of the expert review group on the effective operation and functioning of that Tribunal and the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994, as requested in its resolution 53/212;

2. *Notes with concern* that, owing to the late submission of the report on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, the General Assembly did not have adequate time to consider it properly;

3. *Requests* that future reports on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia be submitted by 1 October of the year in which they are to be considered;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to issue, as a matter of priority, the report of the expert review group in the six official languages of the United Nations;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to obtain comments and observations from the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia on the report of the expert review group, and to submit them, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, to the General Assembly for consideration at its resumed fifty-fourth session;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to improve further the workload indicators and to use them, as much as possible, as the basis for supporting the resources requested in the budget estimates;

7. *Approves* the recommendations of the Advisory Committee[48] on the note of the Secretary-General on conditions of service for the judges of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Tribunal for Rwanda[49] concerning the establishment of a lump-sum payment for survivors of the judges;

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[44] A/54/518 and Corr.1.

[45] A/54/645.

[46] A/54/395.

[47] See A/54/645.

[48] A/54/646, para. 75.

[49] A/C.5/54/30.

8. *Also approves* the budgetary recommendations of the Advisory Committee, as contained in paragraph 77 of its report,[45] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to appropriate, on a provisional basis, subject to further review at its resumed fifty-fourth session, to the Special Account for the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, a total amount of 106,149,400 United States dollars gross (95,942,600 dollars net) for the year 2000;

10. *Decides also* that the financing of the appropriation for the year 2000 under the Special Account shall take into account the amount of 2,740,700 dollars gross (2,578,100 dollars net), being the unencumbered balance for the year 1998, the estimated unencumbered balance of 8,200,000 dollars gross and net from the appropriation for the year 1999 and the estimated income of 5,200 dollars for the year 2000, which shall be set off against the aggregate amount of the appropriation, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

11. *Decides further* to apportion the amount of 47,601,750 dollars gross (42,582,250 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for the year 2000;

12. *Decides* to apportion the amount of 47,601,750 dollars gross (42,582,250 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations for the year 2000;

13. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 11 and 12 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 10,039,000 dollars approved for the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the year 2000;

14. *Welcomes* contributions already made to the Voluntary Fund to support the activities of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, and invites Member States and other interested parties to make further voluntary contributions to the Tribunal;

15. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question during its resumed fifty-fourth session.

ANNEX

Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

	Gross	*Net*
	(United States dollars)	
Appropriation for the year 2000	106 149 400	95 942 600
Less:		
Estimated unencumbered balance for the year 1999	(8 200 000)	(8 200 000)
Unencumbered balance for the year 1998	(2 740 700)	(2 578 100)
Estimated income for the year 2000	(5 200)	–
Balance to be assessed for the year 2000	95 203 500	85 164 500
Including:		
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for the year 2000	47 601 750	42 582 250
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the peacekeeping budget of the United Nations for the year 2000	47 601 750	42 582 250

RESOLUTION 54/240

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/679)

54/240. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994[50] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[51]

Recalling its resolution 49/251 of 20 July 1995 on the financing of the International Tribunal for Rwanda and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 53/213 of 18 December 1998,

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[50] A/54/521.

[51] A/54/646 and Add.1.

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance of the International Tribunal for Rwanda for 1998[52] and the comments of the Advisory Committee thereon,[53]

1. *Deeply regrets* the delay in the submission of the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994,[50] as well as the failure to submit to the General Assembly the report of the expert review group on the effective operation and functioning of that Tribunal and the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, as requested in its resolution 53/213;

2. *Notes with concern* that, owing to the late submission of the report on the financing of the International Tribunal for Rwanda, the General Assembly did not have adequate time to consider it properly;

3. *Requests* that future reports on the financing of the International Tribunal for Rwanda be submitted by 1 October of the year in which they are to be considered;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to issue, as a matter of priority, the report of the expert review group in the six official languages of the United Nations;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to obtain comments and observations from the International Tribunal for Rwanda on the report of the expert review group, and to submit them, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, to the General Assembly for consideration at its resumed fifty-fourth session;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to improve further the workload indicators and to use them, as much as possible, as the basis for supporting the resources requested in the budget estimates;

7. *Approves* the recommendations of the Advisory Committee[54] on the note of the Secretary-General on conditions of service for the judges of the International Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia[55] concerning the establishment of a lump-sum payment for survivors of the judges;

8. *Also approves* the budgetary recommendations of the Advisory Committee as contained in paragraph 71 of its report,[56] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to appropriate, on a provisional basis, subject to further review at its resumed fifty-fourth session, to the Special Account for the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994, a total amount of 86,154,900 United States dollars gross (78,170,200 dollars net) for the year 2000;

10. *Decides also* that the financing of the appropriation for the year 2000 under the Special Account shall take into account the amount of 2 million dollars gross (1,816,000 dollars net), being the estimated unencumbered balance as at the end of 1999 after absorption of overexpenditure recorded as at the end of 1998 for the biennium 1998-1999, which shall be set off against the aggregate amount of the appropriation, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

11. *Decides further* to apportion the amount of 42,077,450 dollars gross (38,177,100 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for the year 2000;

12. *Decides* to apportion the amount of 42,077,450 dollars gross (38,177,100 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations for the year 2000;

13. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 11 and 12 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 7,800,700 dollars approved for the International Tribunal for Rwanda for the year 2000;

14. *Welcomes* contributions already made to the Voluntary Fund to support the activities of the International Tribunal for Rwanda, and invites Member States and other interested parties to make further voluntary contributions to the Tribunal;

15. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question during its resumed fifty-fourth session.

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[52] A/54/496 and Corr.1.

[53] See A/54/646.

[54] A/54/646, para. 75.

[55] A/C.5/54/30.

[56] A/54/646.

ANNEX

Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

	Gross	*Net*
	(United States dollars)	
Appropriation for the year 2000	86 154 900	78 170 200
Less:		
Estimated unencumbered balance as at the end of 1999 after absorption of overexpenditure recorded as at the end of 1998	(2 000 000)	(1 816 000)
Balance to be assessed for the year 2000	84 154 900	76 354 200
Including:		
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for the year 2000	42 077 450	38 177 100
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the peacekeeping budget of the United Nations for the year 2000	42 077 450	38 177 100

RESOLUTION 54/241

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/686)

54/241. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone[37] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[38]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolutions 1181 (1998) of 13 July 1998, by which the Council established the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone, 1260 (1999) of 20 August 1999, by which the Council authorized the provisional expansion of the Observer Mission, and 1270 (1999) of 22 October 1999, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone for an initial period of six months,

Recalling its resolution 53/29 of 20 November 1998 on the financing of the Observer Mission,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Observer Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations, and recognizing that the costs of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone are also to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter,

Recalling its previous decision concerning the Observer Mission, and recognizing that, with regard to the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Observer Mission and the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone as at 30 November 1999, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 1.2 million United States dollars, representing 8 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes that some 37 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

3. *Urges* all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Observer Mission and to the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone in full and on time;

4. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

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[37] [illegible] A/54/457 and A/54/633.

[38] A/54/495 and A/54/647.

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone, and for this purpose requests the Secretary-General to speed up the implementation of the asset management system at all peacekeeping missions in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/1 of 15 October 1997;

8. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[58]

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on the experience gained in the use of resident auditors in peacekeeping missions and the implications of the implementation of the recommendation of the Office of Internal Oversight Services referred to in paragraph 12 of the report of the Advisory Committee;[58]

10. *Notes* that a technical assessment mission will be undertaken to assess the needs relating to mine clearance, and requests that the necessary funding for operational demining needs be made available for these activities;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to employ locally recruited staff for the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

13. *Decides* to continue to use the Special Account established in accordance with General Assembly resolution 53/29 for the Observer Mission, for the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone beginning 22 October 1999;

14. *Decides also* to appropriate the amount of 200 million dollars gross (197,765,100 dollars net) for the maintenance and provisional expansion of the Observer Mission and the establishment and maintenance of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000, inclusive of the amount of 52,971,600 dollars gross (52,687,600 dollars net) previously authorized by the Advisory Committee under the terms of section IV of General Assembly resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994 on the administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of peacekeeping operations;

15. *Decides further*, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 161,666,667 dollars gross (159,860,123 dollars net) for the Observer Mission and the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone for the period from 1 July 1999 to 21 April 2000 in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993, 50/451 B of 23 December 1995 and 54/456 to 54/458 of 23 December 1999, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1999 and 2000, as set out in its resolutions 52/215 A of 22 December 1997 and 54/237 A of 23 December 1999;

16. *Decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 15 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,806,544 dollars approved for the Observer Mission and the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone for the period from 1 July 1999 to 21 April 2000;

17. *Decides also*, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 38,333,333 dollars gross (37,904,977 dollars net) among Member States for the period from 22 April to 30 June 2000 for the maintenance of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone at a monthly rate of 16,666,667 dollars gross (16,480,425 dollars net), in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2000, as set out in its resolutions 52/215 A and 54/237 A, subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission beyond 21 April 2000;

18. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 17 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 428,356 dollars approved for the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone for the period from 22 April to 30 June 2000;

19. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

20. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone;

21. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

22. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-fourth session the items entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone" and "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone".

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[58] A/54/847.

RESOLUTION 54/242

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/684)

54/242. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision 49/470 of 23 December 1994,

1. *Decides* that, from the date of adoption of the present resolution and without prejudice to the relevant financial regulations and rules of the United Nations, all financial contributions of Belarus and Ukraine to the Organization, including those for which assessments were issued prior to 1996, shall be taken into account when determining whether the amount of their arrears, as calculated in accordance with decision 49/470, equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from Belarus and Ukraine for the preceding two full years in accordance with Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Emphasizes* that this decision shall not exempt Belarus and Ukraine from their obligation to pay all outstanding contributions, and calls upon Belarus and Ukraine to make proposals for the treatment of their arrears concerning the financing of peacekeeping operations;

3. *Decides* to keep this matter under review.

RESOLUTION 54/243

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/684)

54/243. Support account for peacekeeping operations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/258 of 3 May 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 48/226 A of 23 December 1993, 48/226 B of 5 April 1994, 48/226 C of 29 July 1994, 49/250 of 20 July 1995, 50/11 of 2 November 1995, 50/221 A of 11 April 1996, 50/221 B of 7 June 1996, 51/226 of 3 April 1997, 51/239 A of 17 June 1997, 51/239 B and 51/243 of 15 September 1997, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 52/234 and 52/248 of 26 June 1998, 53/12 A of 26 October 1998, 53/208 B of 18 December 1998 and 53/12 B of 8 June 1999 and its decisions 48/489 of 8 July 1994, 49/469 of 23 December 1994 and 50/473 of 23 December 1995,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the support account for peacekeeping operations[80] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[81]

Reaffirming the need to continue to improve the administrative and financial management of peacekeeping operations,

Recognizing the need for adequate support during all phases of peacekeeping operations, including the liquidation and termination phases,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the revised post requirements for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000;[80]

2. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[81]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, when submitting his support account proposal for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, to implement fully the observations set out in paragraph 11 of the report of the Advisory Committee;[81]

4. *Notes* that the backstopping activities for peacekeeping operations require ongoing reviews which should take into account the overall evolution of peacekeeping trends;

5. *Affirms* the need for adequate funding for the backstopping of peacekeeping operations;

6. *Reaffirms* that the expenses of the Organization, including the backstopping of peacekeeping operations, shall be borne by Member States and, to that effect, that the Secretary-General should request adequate funding to maintain the capacity of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat;

7. *Approves* sixty-seven additional support account-funded temporary posts for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000;

8. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments not exceeding 3,501,600 United States dollars for the additional staff costs, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly in the context of the performance report for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000.

RESOLUTION 54/244

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/673)

54/244. Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 48/218 B

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the relevant Articles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolution 48/218 B of 29 July 1994,

Having evaluated and reviewed the functions and reporting procedures of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, as called for in paragraph 13 of resolution 48/218 B,

Reaffirming its role as one of the principal organs of the Organization as laid down in the Charter,

Reaffirming also that the purpose of the Office of Internal Oversight Services is to assist the Secretary-General in fulfilling his internal oversight responsibilities in respect of the resources and staff of the Organization,

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[80] A/54/648.

[81] A/54/661.

Reaffirming further its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and the regulations and rules of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the separate and distinct roles of internal and external oversight mechanisms,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 48/218 B, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. *Also reaffirms* its role as the principal oversight organ of the Organization;

3. *Recognizes* the importance of the Office of Internal Oversight Services in continuing to assist the Secretary-General in fulfilling his internal oversight responsibilities;

Reporting

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services to the General Assembly for its consideration and action, in conformity with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make substantive comments, as appropriate, on the findings and recommendations, and to ensure that the views of the departments concerned on the recommendations are included in the body of the report;

Functions

6. *Emphasizes* that the Office of Internal Oversight Services shall conduct its internal oversight activities strictly in full conformity with General Assembly resolution 48/218 B and subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

7. *Reaffirms* that the Office of Internal Oversight Services, with respect to its inspection and evaluation functions, shall evaluate the efficiency and the effectiveness of the implementation of the programmes and legislative mandates of the Organization, in accordance with paragraph 5 (*c*) (iii) of General Assembly resolution 48/218 B;

8. *Emphasizes* that the approval, change and discontinuation of legislative mandates are the exclusive prerogatives of intergovernmental legislative bodies;

9. *Stresses* that the Office of Internal Oversight Services shall not propose to the General Assembly any change in the legislative decisions and mandates approved by intergovernmental legislative bodies;

10. *Recognizes* that the Secretary-General can submit to the General Assembly any proposal for change in the legislative decisions and mandates through the appropriate channels;

Coordination

11. *Emphasizes* the importance of coordination among oversight bodies, and welcomes the periodic meetings between the Office of Internal Oversight Services and the external oversight bodies;

12. *Reaffirms* that the Board of Auditors and the Joint Inspection Unit shall be provided with copies of all reports produced by the Office of Internal Oversight Services, requests that these be made available within one month of their finalization, and emphasizes the need for comments by the Board and the Unit, as appropriate;

Funds and programmes

13. *Decides* to revert to the question referred to in paragraph 11 of its resolution 48/218 B in the context of its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on enhancing the internal oversight mechanisms in operational funds and programmes,[92] and in this connection requests the Secretary-General to update the information in that report;

14. *Decides also* to consider this question at an early stage at its fifty-fifth session;

15. *Decides further* that institutional arrangements governing reimbursements of costs between the Office of Internal Oversight Services and United Nations funds and programmes should be made in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations of the respective funds and programmes, including decisions, as appropriate, by their legislative bodies;

Investigations

16. *Stresses* that, in respect of the investigation function of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, the Secretary-General shall provide procedures to protect individual rights of staff, including those of staff members making reports to the Investigations Section, and to regulate due process and fairness for all parties concerned;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly for its consideration and action, in conformity with the relevant provisions of the Charter and the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, rules and procedures to be applied for the investigation functions performed by the Office of Internal Oversight Services, in order to ensure fairness and avoid possible abuse in the investigation process;

Operational independence

18. *Emphasizes* that, in accordance with paragraph 5 (*a*) of its resolution 48/218 B, the operational independence of the Office of Internal Oversight Services is related to the performance of its internal oversight functions;

19. *Also emphasizes* that the recruitment and promotion of staff of the Office of Internal Oversight Services shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Charter, the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and Staff Regulations and Rules of the Organization, taking into account Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter;

20. *Decides* to evaluate and review at its fifty-ninth session the functions and reporting procedures of the Office of Internal Oversight Services and any other matter which it deems appropriate, and to that end to include in the provisional agenda of that session an item entitled "Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 48/218 B and 54/244".

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[92] A/51/801.

RESOLUTION 54/245

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/674)

54/245. Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo[63] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[64]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999 regarding the establishment of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo,

Recalling its resolution 53/241 of 28 July 1999 on the financing of the Mission,

Acknowledging the complexity of the Mission,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S–IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Recalling its resolutions 51/243 of 15 September 1997 and 52/234 of 26 June 1998,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo as at 30 November 1999, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 50.1 million United States dollars, representing 40 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes that some 23 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

3. *Urges* all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full and on time;

4. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Notes* the role of the specialized agencies in the implementation of humanitarian activities in the Mission under pillar II, including those related to technical cooperation, and requests the Secretary-General to finalize agreements with those agencies and to report thereon to the General Assembly in the context of the next budget proposal for the Mission;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake the study called for by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the use of United Nations Volunteers in peacekeeping operations and to report to the General Assembly during the main part of its fifty-fifth session;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to comply fully with the guidelines on the acceptance of gratis personnel approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 52/234;

10. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission, and to this end requests the Secretary-General to speed up the implementation of the asset management system at all peacekeeping missions in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/1 of 15 October 1997;

11. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;[64]

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to employ locally recruited staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

14. *Decides* to appropriate the amount of 427,061,800 dollars gross (410,091,700 dollars net) for the establishment and maintenance of the Mission for the period from 10 June 1999 to

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[63] A/54/494 and Corr.1.

[64] A/54/622.

30 June 2000, inclusive of the amount of 200 million dollars authorized by the General Assembly in its resolution 53/241;

15. *Decides also*, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 302,061,800 dollars gross (285,091,700 dollars net) for the period from 10 June 1999 to 30 June 2000, taking into account the amount of 125 million dollars already apportioned among Member States in accordance with Assembly resolution 53/241 and in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993, 50/451 B of 23 December 1995 and 54/456 to 54/458 of 23 December 1999, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1999 and 2000, as set out in its resolutions 52/215 A of 22 December 1997 and 54/237 A of 23 December 1999;

16. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 15 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 16,970,100 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 10 June 1999 to 30 June 2000;

17. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

18. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

19. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

20. *Regrets* that the report of the Secretary-General does not contain satisfactory explanations, and requests the Secretary-General to improve the presentation in his future reports on the budget of the Mission and to submit them in a timely manner;

21. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-fourth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo".

RESOLUTION 54/246

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/687)

54/246. Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor[65] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[66]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1272 (1999) of 25 October 1999 regarding the establishment of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor,

Recognizing that the costs of the Transitional Administration are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing also that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Transitional Administration, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the trust fund for the multinational force,

Inviting voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Transitional Administration with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

2. *Urges* all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor in full and on time;

3. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

4. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

5. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

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[65] A/54/236/Add.1.

[66] A/54/653.

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Transitional Administration, and for this purpose requests the Secretary-General to speed up the implementation of the asset management system at all peacekeeping missions in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/1 of 15 October 1997;

7. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[66]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Transitional Administration is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to employ locally recruited staff for the Transitional Administration against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Transitional Administration;

10. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not exceeding 200 million United States dollars, inclusive of the amount of 50 million dollars authorized by the Advisory Committee, for the Transitional Administration under the terms of section IV of General Assembly resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994, and requests the Secretary-General to establish a special account for the Transitional Administration;

11. *Decides*, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 200 million dollars among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993, 50/451 B of 23 December 1995 and 54/456 to 54/458 of 23 December 1999, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1999 and 2000, as set out in its resolutions 52/215 A of 22 December 1997 and 54/237 A of 23 December 1999;

12. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

13. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Transitional Administration;

14. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Transitional Administration in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, as a matter of priority, a comprehensive report on the financing of the Transitional Administration, including full budget estimates and information on the utilization of resources until the time of the submission of the report, to enable the Assembly to take action on it at the first part of its resumed fifty-fourth session;

16. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-fourth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor".

RESOLUTIONS 54/247 A and B

A

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/508/Add.1)

B

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/508/Add.1)

54/247. Programme budget for the biennium 1998–1999

A

FINAL BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE BIENNIUM 1998–1999

The General Assembly

1. *Takes note* of the second performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 1998–1999[67] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[68]

2. *Also takes note* of the observations of the Advisory Committee[69] concerning the second performance report;

3. *Notes* that the vacancy rate for the Professional level during the biennium 1998–1999 was higher than the rate on the basis of which the programme budget had been approved;

4 *Resolves* that for the biennium 1998–1999:

(*a*) The amount of 2,529,903,500 United States dollars appropriated in its resolutions 53/215 A of 18 December 1998 and 53/219 of 7 April 1999 shall be decreased by 41,601,500 dollars as follows:

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[67] A/54/631 and Corr.1.

[68] A/54/7/Add.7. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

[69] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Fifth Committee, 47th meeting* (A/C.5/54/SR.47), and corrigendum.

Section		*Amount approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 53/215 A and 53/219*	*Increase/(decrease)*	*Final appropriation*
			(United States dollars)	
Part I.	**Overall policy-making, direction and coordination**			
1A	Overall policy-making, direction and coordination	41 341 200	364 500	41 705 700
1B	General Assembly affairs and conference services	427 653 800	9 830 900	437 484 700
	Total, part I	**468 995 000**	**10 195 400**	**479 190 400**
Part II.	**Political affairs**			
2A	Political affairs	41 233 900	(183 500)	41 050 400
2B	Disarmament	12 975 900	(1 172 100)	11 803 800
3	Peacekeeping operations and special missions	181 423 700	(14 357 500)	167 066 200
4	Peaceful uses of outer space	3 934 800	242 900	4 177 700
	Total, part II	**239 568 300**	**(15 470 200)**	**224 098 100**
Part III.	**International justice and law**			
5	International Court of Justice	20 659 600	521 800	21 181 400
6	Legal affairs	32 449 200	(1 008 300)	31 440 900
	Total, part III	**53 108 800**	**(486 500)**	**52 622 300**
Part IV.	**International cooperation for development**			
7A	Economic and social affairs	106 958 400	(1 978 000)	104 980 400
8	Africa: New Agenda for Development	5 230 000	(262 900)	4 967 100
11A	Trade and development	93 296 400	(4 351 300)	88 945 100
11B	International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO	19 812 700	(1 291 500)	18 521 200
12	Environment	8 756 600	50 000	8 806 600
13	Human settlements	12 588 700	367 700	12 956 400
14	Crime control	5 357 300	(598 600)	4 758 700
15	International drug control	14 728 400	(842 500)	13 885 900
	Total, part IV	**266 728 500**	**(8 907 100)**	**257 821 400**
Part V.	**Regional cooperation for development**			
16	Economic and social development in Africa	80 607 800	(3 053 200)	77 554 600
17	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	56 675 900	(2 727 500)	53 948 400
18	Economic development in Europe	43 549 600	(1 018 600)	42 531 000
19	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	82 684 000	(3 558 800)	79 125 200
20	Economic and social development in Western Asia	49 752 300	(7 968 700)	41 783 600
21	Regular programme of technical cooperation	42 655 200	(398 000)	42 257 200
	Total, part V	**355 924 800**	**(18 724 800)**	**337 200 000**
Part VI.	**Human rights and humanitarian affairs**			
22	Human rights	40 832 600	1 065 200	41 897 800
23	Protection of and assistance to refugees	45 051 000	1 469 400	46 520 400
24	Palestine refugees	21 804 800	3 077 500	24 882 300
25	Humanitarian assistance	17 583 200	34 400	17 617 600
	Total, part VI	**125 271 600**	**5 646 500**	**130 918 100**
Part VII.	**Public information**			
26	Communications and public information	135 574 000	(1 711 100)	133 862 900
	Total, part VII	**135 574 000**	**(1 711 100)**	**133 862 900**

Section		*Amount approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 53/215 A and 53/219*	*Increase/(decrease)*	*Final appropriation*
		(United States dollars)		
Part VIII.	**Common support services**			
27	Management and central support services			
A.	Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management	11 090 300	(46 200)	11 044 100
B.	Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts	20 888 200	(692 200)	20 196 000
C.	Office of Human Resources Management	44 675 800	1 282 400	45 958 200
D.	Office of Central Support Services	226 894 000	(4 431 600)	222 462 400
F.	Administration, Geneva	99 853 200	(2 279 400)	97 573 800
G.	Administration, Vienna	30 701 400	(860 400)	29 841 000
H.	Administration, Nairobi	12 194 900	1 139 500	13 334 400
	Total, part VIII	**446 297 800**	**(5 887 900)**	**440 409 900**
Part IX.	**Office of Internal Oversight Services**			
28.	Internal oversight	17 941 500	(173 500)	17 768 000
	Total, part IX	**17 941 500**	**(173 500)**	**17 768 000**
Part X.	**Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses**			
29.	Jointly financed administrative activities	5 824 200	2 139 900	7 964 100
30.	Special expenses	52 684 300	(8 227 800)	44 456 500
	Total, part X	**58 508 500**	**(6 087 900)**	**52 420 600**
Part XI.	**Capital expenditures**			
31.	Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	34 173 100	2 838 500	37 011 600
	Total, part XI	**34 173 100**	**2 838 500**	**37 011 600**
Part XII.	**Staff assessment**			
32.	Staff assessment	314 746 600	(2 832 900)	311 913 700
	Total, part XII	**314 746 600**	**(2 832 900)**	**311 913 700**
Part XIII.	**Development Account**			
34.	Development Account	13 065 000	-	13 065 000
	Total, part XIII	**13 065 000**	-	**13 065 000**
	Grand total	**2 529 903 500**	**(41 601 500)**	**2 488 302 000**

(*b*) The Secretary-General shall be authorized to transfer credits between sections of the budget, with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee;

(*c*) In addition to the appropriations approved under paragraph (*a*) above, an amount of 51,000 dollars is appropriated for each year of the biennium 1998–1999 from the accumulated income of the Library Endowment Fund for the purchase of books, periodicals, maps and library equipment and for such other expenses of the Library at the Palais des Nations as are in accordance with the objects and provisions of the endowment.

B

FINAL INCOME ESTIMATES FOR THE BIENNIUM 1998–1999

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the biennium 1998-1999:

(*a*) The estimates of income of 362,705,400 United States dollars approved by its resolution 53/215 B of 18 December 1998 shall be decreased by 6,326,200 dollars as follows:

Income sections		*Amount approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 53/215 B*	*Increase/ (decrease)*	*Final appropriation*
			(United States dollars)	
1.	Income from staff assessment	324 796 600	(10 101 200)	314 695 400
	Total, income section 1	**324 796 600**	**(10 101 200)**	**314 695 400**
2.	General income	33 585 400	3 986 200	37 571 600
3.	Services to the public	4 307 600	(211 200)	4 096 400
	Total, income sections 2 and 3	**37 893 000**	**3 775 000**	**41 668 000**
	Grand total	**362 689 600**	**(6 326 200)**	**356 363 400**

(*b*) The income from staff assessment shall be credited to the Tax Equalization Fund in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955;

(*c*) Direct expenses of the United Nations Postal Administration, services to visitors, catering and related services, garage operations, television services and the sale of publications, not provided for under the budget appropriations, shall be charged against the income derived from those activities.

RESOLUTION 54/248

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/690)

54/248. Pattern of conferences

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions and decisions, including resolutions 40/243 of 18 December 1985, 43/222 A to E of 21 December 1988, 47/202 A to D of 22 December 1992, 48/222 A and B of 23 December 1993, 49/221 A to D of 23 December 1994, 50/11 of 2 November 1995, 50/206 A to F of 23 December 1995, 51/211 A to E of 18 December 1996 and 51/211 F of 15 September 1997, 52/23 of 25 November 1997, 52/214 of 22 December 1997 and 53/208 A to E of 18 December 1998 and decisions 38/401 of 23 September 1983 and 52/468 of 31 March 1998,

A

CALENDAR OF CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

Having considered the report of the Committee on Conferences,[70]

1. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Committee on Conferences, and takes note of its report,[70] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. *Approves* the draft biennial calendar of conferences and meetings for 2000–2001, as submitted by the Committee on Conferences,[71] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Authorizes* the Committee on Conferences to make adjustments to the calendar of conferences and meetings for 2000–2001 that may become necessary as a result of actions and decisions taken by the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all the conference services required as a result of decisions taken by the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, taking into account, as necessary, the procedures established by the Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and 42/211 of 21 December 1987;

5. *Reaffirms* its decision that the headquarters rule shall be adhered to by all bodies, and decides that waivers to the headquarters rule shall be granted solely on the basis of the calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations recommended by the Committee on Conferences for adoption by the General Assembly;

6. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Secretariat took into account the arrangements referred to in paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 53/208 A with regard to the two holidays of Id al-Fitr, which falls on 8 January (to be observed on 7 January) and 27 December 2000, and Id al-Adha, which falls on 16 March 2000, when drafting the biennial calendar of conferences and meetings for 2000-2001;

7. *Also notes with satisfaction* that the Secretariat took into account the arrangements referred to in paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 53/208 A concerning Orthodox Good Friday (which fell on 9 April 1999), which falls on 28 April 2000 and 13 April 2001 in the calendar for the next biennium, and requests all intergovernmental bodies to observe this decision when planning their meetings;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, when planning the calendar of conferences and meetings, to make every effort to avoid simultaneous peak periods at the various duty stations;

9. *Reaffirms* the provisions established by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/11 regarding multilingualism;

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[70] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/54/32).

[71] Ibid., annex.

10. *Notes* that the procedure proposed in paragraph 172 of the report of the Committee on Conferences[70] precludes observers from participating fully in the work of the Committee;

11. *Invites* the Committee on Conferences to keep under review its procedure regarding the participation of observers;

B

UTILIZATION OF CONFERENCE-SERVICING RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the provision of interpretation services to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States,[72] the report of the Secretary-General on the improved utilization of conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi,[73] the report of the Secretary-General on the possibility of establishing a permanent interpretation service at the United Nations Office at Nairobi,[74] the report of the Secretary-General on the impact of economy measures on the delivery of mandated conference services,[75] the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on these issues[76] and the report of the Secretary-General on career development in language services,[77]

1. *Notes with concern* the proposed reduction of resources for conference services for the biennium 2000–2001, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that efficiency measures are carefully analysed to avoid any negative impact on conference services, in the light of the level and quality of services provided to Member States;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of providing adequate conference-servicing resources to all United Nations conference centres;

3. *Notes with appreciation* that the overall utilization factor for 1998 exceeded the benchmark of 80 per cent, in particular at Geneva and Vienna;

4. *Encourages* the optimum utilization of conference services in New York, taking into full consideration issues of efficiency and effectiveness, including the limitations of small delegations;

5. *Emphasizes*, therefore, the need to ensure equal opportunity for all Member States to participate fully in meeting their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations, and in this connection urges intergovernmental bodies when adopting their programmes of work to avoid as much as possible, *inter alia*, the scheduling of simultaneous, parallel and/or late night meetings;

6. *Reiterates its request* to the Committee on Conferences to continue to consult with those bodies that consistently utilized less than the applicable benchmark figure of their allocated resources for the past three sessions, with a view to making appropriate recommendations in order to achieve the optimum utilization of conference-servicing resources;

7. *Requests* the Chairperson of the Committee on Conferences to transmit a letter to the chairpersons of all bodies that utilized less than the applicable benchmark figure (80 per cent) of their allocated conference resources in the previous year, informing them of the problem and drawing their attention to the significant loss of meeting time, with a view to encouraging appropriate action on their part so as to improve the utilization of conference-servicing resources;

8. *Notes* the importance of meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States for the smooth functioning of sessional bodies, in view of the increased requests for meetings of regional and other major groups, and welcomes the fact that 83 per cent of the requests for interpretation services for such meetings were met, while 100 per cent of the requests for facilities only were met;

9. *Notes with concern* the difficulties experienced by some Member States owing to the lack of conference services for some meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States;

10. *Regrets* that 17 per cent of the requests for interpretation services made by regional and other major groupings of Member States were not met, while recognizing that meetings of Charter and mandated bodies must be serviced as a priority;

11. *Decides* to include all necessary resources in the budget for the biennium 2000–2001 to provide interpretation services for meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States upon request by those groupings, on an ad hoc basis, in accordance with established practice, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, through the Committee on Conferences, a report on the implementation of this decision;

12. *Urges* intergovernmental bodies to spare no effort at the planning stage to take into account meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States, to make provision for such meetings in their programme of work and to notify conference services, well in advance, of any cancellations so that unutilized conference-servicing resources may, to the extent possible, be reassigned to meetings of regional and other major groupings of States;

13. *Decides* that full interpretation services, in the six official languages, must be ensured for the meetings of intergovernmental bodies for the full duration of those meetings;

14. *Expresses concern* that the conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi are still underutilized, as recorded during the last reporting period;

15. *Reiterates its call* for better utilization of the conference facilities at Nairobi;

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[72] A/54/208.

[73] A/54/221.

[74] A/54/262.

[75] A/53/833.

[76] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7* (A/54/7), paras. 108–114.

[77] A/53/919 and Add.2.

16. *Urges* all subsidiary bodies of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Commission on Human Settlements, and encourages Member States, intergovernmental bodies and regional and other major groupings to increase their use of the conference facilities at Nairobi;

17. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to assist the aforementioned bodies in improving this situation, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, through the Committee on Conferences, on the actions taken to that end;

18. *Takes note with appreciation* of the decision of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to hold the Fifth Expert Group Meeting on Financial Issues of Agenda 21 in December 1999 at the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

19. *Encourages* other departments, intergovernmental bodies and regional and other major groupings to follow the example set by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs;

20. *Also encourages* all United Nations bodies and expert groups not subject to the headquarters rule to hold some of their meetings at the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

21. *Reaffirms* the general principle established in the headquarters rule, and in particular, that all meetings related to environment and human settlements that are organized by the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), respectively, should be held at Nairobi, being the headquarters of the Programme and Habitat;

22. *Discourages strongly* any invitation for hosting meetings which would violate the headquarters rule, in particular for United Nations centres with a low utilization level;

23. *Requests* the Committee on Conferences to consider the possibility of holding its 2000 substantive session at the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

24. *Decides* to establish a permanent interpretation service at the United Nations Office at Nairobi no later than January 2001;

25. *Also decides* to strengthen the interpretation service at the United Nations Office at Vienna;

26. *Encourages* the Secretariat to continue further the active dialogue between conference services and the secretariats of intergovernmental bodies, with a view to improving the provision of conference services;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure an increase in the utilization of the regional centres in future work programmes and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

28. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to update the administrative instruction of 8 May 1987 on guidelines for the preparation of host Government agreements falling under General Assembly resolution 40/243 of 18 December 1985;[78]

29. *Notes with appreciation* the renovation of the Economic and Social Council Chamber with the voluntary contribution of a Member State;

C

DOCUMENTATION AND PUBLICATION-RELATED MATTERS

1. *Reiterates its decision* that, if a report is submitted late to the conference services, the reasons therefor should be included in a footnote to the document;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the texts of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly are communicated to Member States within fifteen days after the close of the session;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the *Official Records* of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly include information on the adoption of the resolutions, such as voting records and sponsors, before the text of each resolution, in the six official languages of the Organization;

4. *Notes with deep concern* the low rate of compliance with the six-week rule for the issuance of documentation;

5. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that documentation is available in accordance with the six-week rule for the distribution of documents simultaneously in the six official languages of the General Assembly;

6. *Notes with deep concern* that the provisions of paragraphs 24 and 25 of section B of its resolution 52/214 and paragraphs 11 and 12 of its resolution 53/208 B are not being fully implemented;

7. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General direct all departments to include, where appropriate, the following elements in reports originating in the Secretariat:

(*a*) A summary of the report;

(*b*) Consolidated conclusions, recommendations and other proposed actions;

(*c*) Relevant background information;

8. *Reiterates* that all documents submitted to legislative organs by the Secretariat and expert bodies for consideration and action should have conclusions and recommendations in bold print;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to submit its reports in accordance with paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 53/208 B;

10. *Recalls* its decision in paragraph 2 (*b*) of section II of its resolution 41/213, and emphasizes that, in future, proposed programme budgets should be considered by the

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[78] ST/AI/342.

General Assembly in fascicle form, together with recommendations on them by the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and that the programme budgets should be issued in their final form after approval by the Assembly with the changes to the resource level annexed to the approved programme budget;

11. *Notes with concern* the decline in the number of documents submitted to conference services in time for processing before the beginning of a session, and requests the Secretary-General to take urgent remedial measures to rectify this alarming situation, including the introduction of a system of responsibility and accountability;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to publish, prior to the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly, updated versions of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation in the six official languages of the Organization;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to publish the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations in the six official languages of the Organization when their consolidation is completed;

14. *Urges* intergovernmental bodies, when feasible, to become more actively involved in rationalizing their meeting schedules in order to ensure the timely distribution of all related documentation, and requests the Secretary-General to submit proposals based on the reviews, through the Committee on Conferences, to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

D

TRANSLATION- AND INTERPRETATION-RELATED MATTERS

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the provision of interpretation services to other locations from permanent interpretation structures in New York, Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi[79] and the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Career development in language services: the post of reviser",[80]

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the efforts to utilize new technologies, such as computer-assisted translation, remote translation, terminology databases and speech recognition, in the six official languages so as to enhance further the productivity of conference services, and to keep the General Assembly informed of the introduction and use of any other new technology;

2. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue the efforts to ensure that training opportunities in the six official languages are equally available to all language staff, including those at duty stations away from Headquarters;

3. *Decides* that, in the absence of a General Assembly decision to the contrary, the use of remote interpretation shall not constitute an alternative to the current institutionalized system of interpretation;

4. *Also decides* that the use of remote interpretation should not affect the quality of interpretation or in itself lead to any further reduction in language posts, nor will it affect the equal treatment of the six official languages;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep under review the introduction and use of any new technology, in particular remote interpretation, and to report thereon to the General Assembly on a regular basis;

6. *Requests* that efforts continue to be made to improve the quality control of language services at all duty stations;

7. *Takes note with appreciation* of the note by the Secretary-General entitled "Career development in language services — Measures aimed at reducing excessive vacancy rates at some duty stations: elements of a system of managed assignments",[81] and requests the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly informed of developments in this area;

8. *Notes with concern* that the rate of self-revision exceeded the established benchmark and even tended to increase at all duty stations;

9. *Recognizes* that an increase in the use of temporary assistance and contractual translation services could increase the need for revision at the senior levels;

10. *Notes with concern* that some documents issued in Arabic tend to follow a consistent pattern of excessively literal translation, by focusing more on the vocabulary and not on the content of the original language, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that this situation is rectified;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that translation, in principle, reflects the specificity of each language;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to improve further the quality of translation of documents issued in the six official languages, to ensure continuous dialogue between translation staff and interpretation staff, among United Nations headquarters at New York, Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi, and between translation divisions and Member States with regard to the standardization of the terminology used;

13. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that Member States, which are the main users of United Nations documents, are briefed periodically on the terminology used;

14. *Decides* to keep the matter under review through consultations with Member States concerned;

E

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the continuous development, maintenance and enrichment of United Nations web sites,[82]

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[79] A/54/176.

[80] A/53/919/Add.1.

[81] A/C.5/54/28.

[82] A/AC.198/1999/6.

1. *Notes* the request of the Committee on Information that the Secretary-General continue to develop and enhance the United Nations web sites in all the official languages of the Organization and continue to develop proposals for consideration by the Committee on Information at its next session in May 2000;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to improve and update document access and retrieval from the United Nations web sites and from the optical disk system, equally in the six official languages, at all duty stations by March 2000;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in formalizing the structure of the Information Technology Section, to ensure that the six official languages are treated equally;

4. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the goal of the equal treatment of the six official languages is taken into account in the course of the continuous development, maintenance and enrichment of United Nations web sites;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take necessary measures to improve access to the web page of the Procurement Division;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report on the measures taken by the end of April 2000, pursuant to requests made under this section, and decides to revert to this matter during its resumed fifty-fourth session;

F

Recalling its decision 38/401, section E of its resolution 52/214 and its resolution 53/208 E concerning the prohibition of smoking in small conference rooms and the discouragement of smoking in large conference rooms,

1. *Calls upon* representatives of Member States to abide by its decision 38/401, section E of its resolution 52/214 and its resolution 53/208 E;

2. *Encourages* all users of United Nations conference facilities, in order to avoid involuntary exposure to passive smoking, to refrain from smoking, in particular in conference rooms.

RESOLUTION 54/249

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/691)

54/249. Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001

I

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and 42/211 of 21 December 1987,

Recalling its resolution 53/206 of 18 December 1998, in which it invited the Secretary-General to prepare the budget outline for the biennium 2000–2001 on the basis of 2,545 million United States dollars,

Recalling also its resolution 52/220 of 22 December 1997,

Recalling further its resolutions 51/219 of 18 December 1996 and 53/207 of 18 December 1998,

Recalling the relevant paragraphs of resolutions 52/12 A and 52/12 B of 12 November and 19 December 1997, respectively, as well as resolutions 52/235 of 26 June 1998, 53/220 A of 7 April 1999, 53/220 B of 8 June 1999 and 54/15 of 29 October 1999, relating to the Development Account,

Recalling also paragraph 2 (*a*) of its resolution 1798 (XVII) of 11 December 1962,

Reaffirming the respective mandates of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Committee for Programme and Coordination in the consideration of the proposed programme budget,

Reaffirming also the requirement of all Member States to fulfil their financial obligations as set out in the Charter of the United Nations in full, on time and without conditions,

Recognizing the detrimental effect of the withholding of assessed contributions on the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations,

Recognizing also that late payments of assessed contributions adversely affect the financial situation of the Organization,

Stressing that the established procedures for the formulation, implementation and approval of the programme budget must be strictly followed,

Having considered the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001[83] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[84] and the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of the thirty-ninth session,[85]

1. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters;

2. *Reaffirms also* rule 153 of its rules of procedure;

3. *Reaffirms further* the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, and the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

4. *Decides* that no changes to the budget methodology, to established budgetary procedures and practices or to the financial regulations may be implemented without prior review

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[83] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/54/6/Rev.1), vols. I, II and III; ibid., *Supplement No. 6A* (A/54/6/Rev.1/Add.1); and A/C.5/54/37.

[84] Ibid., *Supplement No. 7* (A/54/7); and A/54/7/Add.6 and 8. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

[85] Ibid., *Supplement No. 16* (A/54/16).

and approval by the General Assembly, in accordance with established budgetary procedures;

5. *Reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly in carrying out a thorough analysis and approval of posts and financial resources, as well as of human resources policies, with a view to ensuring full implementation of all mandated programmes and activities and the implementation of policies in this regard;

6. *Welcomes* the timely submission of the proposed programme budget and the continued efforts made by the Secretary-General to improve the format of the proposed programme budget;

7. *Notes with concern* the late submissions on section 11B, International Trade Centre (UNCTAD/WTO), and section 33, Development Account;

8. *Commends* the efforts and initiatives of the Secretary-General aimed at reforming the United Nations;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that, in the implementation of approved reform proposals, there should be no adverse impact on the fulfilment of legislative mandates;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the proposals contained in the individual sections of future proposed programme budgets include more precise information on the outputs, activities, objectives and expected accomplishments of the various departments, on the basis of which the General Assembly may later evaluate budget performance;

11. *Recognizes* that the General Assembly has not yet approved the proposal of the Secretary-General on results-based budgeting;

12. *Takes note* of the fact that the concepts of "expected accomplishments", "outputs", "objectives" and "activities" are not exclusively related to and should not be confused with the concept of "results-based budgeting";

13. *Decides* that any development related to results-based budgeting should be undertaken only with the prior approval of the General Assembly;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to present the budget outline and the proposed programme budget to the General Assembly strictly in accordance with existing budgetary procedure;

15. *Emphasizes* that resources proposed by the Secretary-General should be commensurate with all mandated programmes and activities in order to ensure their full and effective implementation;

16. *Renews its appeal* to Member States to demonstrate their commitment to the United Nations by, *inter alia*, meeting their financial obligations in full, on time and without conditions, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

17. *Reiterates* that core functions of the United Nations, as a principle, should be financed through the regular budget and apportioned among Member States, and notes with concern the excessive reliance on extrabudgetary resources in some sections;

18. *Notes with concern* the current and projected decreasing trend in extrabudgetary resources, particularly for the United Nations funds and programmes;

19. *Expresses concern* that the decrease in extrabudgetary resources in some sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001 could have an adverse impact on the effective implementation of programmes and activities, especially those programmes that are still heavily funded primarily through such resources;

20. *Recalls* its decision set out in section II, paragraph 2 (*b*), of its resolution 41/213, and emphasizes that, in future, proposed programme budgets shall be considered by the General Assembly in fascicle form, together with recommendations on them by the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and that the programme budgets shall be issued in their final form after approval by the General Assembly, with the changes to the resource level annexed to the approved programme budget;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee to submit their reports in accordance with paragraphs 11 and 12 of resolution 53/208 B of 18 December 1998;

22. *Recognizes* the need for Member States to participate in budgetary preparation from its earliest stages and throughout the process;

23. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to improve coordination between departments and the major duty stations so as to use resources effectively in all areas, including information technology;

24. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to explore the possibility of presenting in future proposed programme budgets one consolidated section for staff assessment inflows and outflows, with a view to improving the transparency of the presentation of the budget;

25. *Also calls upon* the Secretary-General to ensure that all sections of future proposed programme budgets are presented in the same standard format, in accordance with the relevant regulations and rules and relevant resolutions;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his programme budget submission for the biennium 2002–2003, to make further improvements to the proposed programme budget, as described by the Advisory Committee in paragraphs 6 and 7 of its report;[86]

27. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to improve the presentation of future proposed programme budgets by including all relevant legislative mandates for all proposed programme narratives;

28. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003, to

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[86] Ibid., *Supplement No. 7* (A/54/7).

provide a better explanation of the use of standard costs and unit rates in the calculation of cost estimates;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003, to submit estimates of the total amount of resources, from all sources of financing, that he should have at his disposal to be able to implement fully the mandated programmes and activities;

II

30. *Reaffirms* that the medium-term plan, as approved by the General Assembly, shall continue to constitute the principal policy directive of the United Nations;

31. *Reiterates* that the priorities for the biennium 2000–2001 are the following:

(*a*) Maintenance of international peace and security;

(*b*) Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions and recent United Nations conferences;

(*c*) Development of Africa;

(*d*) Promotion of human rights;

(*e*) Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts;

(*f*) Promotion of justice and international law;

(*g*) Disarmament;

(*h*) Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

32. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination[85] on the programme narrative of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001,[83] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

33. *Notes with concern* that the request for resources in the proposed programme budget did not accurately reflect the priorities approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 51/219;

34. *Reiterates* the need for the Secretary-General to ensure that resources are utilized strictly for the purposes approved by the General Assembly;

35. *Emphasizes* that the budget proposals of the Secretary-General should reflect resource levels commensurate with the mandates for their full implementation;

36. *Reiterates* that the reports of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the proposed programme budget should be considered by the General Assembly, through the Fifth Committee, only for the final approval of the programme budget;

37. *Expresses its concern* that a number of sections in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001 were not prepared in complete conformity with the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001;[87]

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that, in the future, the programme narratives of the programme budget fully conform to the provisions of the medium-term plan;

39. *Reaffirms* the need to implement strictly and fully the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;

40. *Emphasizes* that programmes and activities mandated by the General Assembly must be respected and implemented fully;

41. *Reiterates* that the allocation of resources should reflect fully the priorities established in the medium term plan;

42. *Also reiterates* that due consideration should be given to issues related to the development of Africa, as a matter of priority;

43. *Emphasizes* the need for mandated programmes and activities to be delivered in the most effective and efficient manner;

44. *Decides* to make changes, as contained in annex I to the present resolution, to the programme narratives in the final published version of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001, as reflected in the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the provisions of the present resolution;

III

45. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee contained in its reports on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001,[84] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

46. *Reaffirms* paragraph 10 of resolution 53/206, whereby the General Assembly decided, *inter alia*, that additional requirements to the level of 86.2 million United States dollars included in the proposed programme budget for the financing of special political missions should be financed in conformity with the provisions of resolution 41/213;

47. *Notes* that the technical proposal on the treatment of the provision for special political missions in the programme budget, as recommended by the Advisory Committee in paragraph 7 of its third report on the biennium 1996–1997,[88] has not been submitted, and requests the Secretary-General to submit the proposal as a matter of priority to the General Assembly during its fifty-fifth session;

48. *Reaffirms* its support for maintaining the international character of the Organization and to the principles of efficiency, competence and integrity enshrined in Article 101 of the Charter;

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[87] Ibid., *Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/53/6/Rev.1).

[88] Ibid., *Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A* (A/52/7/Add.1–10), document A/52/7/Add.2.

49. *Also reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly with regard to the structure of the Secretariat, including the creation, suppression and redeployment of posts, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the Assembly with comprehensive information on all decisions involving established and temporary high-level posts, including equivalent positions financed from the regular budget and from extrabudgetary resources;

50. *Expresses its concern* at the high vacancy rate in certain areas of the Organization, particularly in some of the regional commissions, and reiterates in this regard that a high vacancy rate hampers the delivery of mandated programmes and activities;

51. *Reaffirms* that the vacancy rate is a tool for budgetary calculations and should not be used to achieve budgetary savings;

52. *Also reaffirms* that deliberate management decisions to keep a certain number of posts vacant should not be taken, as this action makes the budget process less transparent and the management of human resources more difficult;

53. *Decides* that a vacancy rate of 6.5 per cent for Professional staff and 2.5 per cent for General Service staff shall be used as a basis for the calculation of the budget for the biennium 2000–2001;

54. *Notes* that, should the vacancy rates realized be lower than those budgeted, the General Assembly would provide additional resources, if required, in the first and/or second performance report so as to preclude the need for any constraint on the recruitment of staff;

55. *Requests* the Secretary-General to recruit staff expeditiously by proper planning and by streamlining personnel practices and procedures, in order to avoid any adverse impact of a high vacancy rate on the effective implementation and delivery of mandated programmes and activities;

56. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that posts are not deliberately left vacant to provide a cushion for absorbing the costs of special missions and other activities authorized "within available resources";

57. *Emphasizes* that the reclassification of posts should not be used as a promotion tool;

58. *Reiterates* that reclassified posts, as approved by the General Assembly, should be filled only in full conformity with the established procedures for recruitment and placement;

59. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake a comprehensive review of the post structure of the Secretariat, taking into account, *inter alia*, the introduction of new technology, and to make proposals in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003 to address the top-heavy post structure of the Organization;

60. *Welcomes* the use of information technology as one of the tools for improving the implementation of mandated programmes and activities;

61. *Notes with regret* the lack of a comprehensive information technology strategy for the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to develop a comprehensive strategy for the development and implementation of information technology, to be submitted through the Advisory Committee to the General Assembly during the main part of its fifty-fifth session;

62. *Emphasizes* that the introduction of new technology should lead neither to the involuntary separation of staff nor necessarily to a reduction in staff;

63. *Decides* to reduce the resources proposed for allocation to information technology for the biennium 2000–2001 by 3,443,000 dollars;

64. *Reaffirms* that the use of temporary assistance should be limited strictly to requirements for peak workload, maternity and sick leave, and that it should not be used to supplant established posts;

65. *Decides* to reduce the level of resources proposed by the Secretary-General for allocation to general temporary assistance, with the exception of general temporary assistance for conference services, by 3.2 million dollars;

66. *Regrets* the continued tendency towards excessive use of consultants where in-house expertise is available, and urges the Secretary-General to resort to the use of consultants strictly in accordance with the existing regulations and rules and relevant resolutions;

67. *Decides* to reduce the level of resources proposed by the Secretary-General for consultants by 2,028,000 dollars, with the exception of resources for the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the regional commissions;

68. *Emphasizes* the importance of the knowledge and skills of the staff of the Organization, and therefore requests the Secretary-General to develop a more coordinated and systematic approach to staff training, in particular with a view to enhancing skills and increasing expertise through training programmes, as recommended by the Advisory Committee;

69. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to comply strictly with the approved travel policies, standards, and regulations and rules, particularly with respect to ensuring that travel is undertaken by the most direct and economical route;

70. *Decides* to reduce the resources proposed for travel of staff on official business by 2,480,000 dollars;

71. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide some flexibility in allowing the use of the external printing account for internal printing purposes, as appropriate;

72. *Decides* that the staffing table for each year of the biennium 2000–2001 shall be as contained in annex II to the present resolution;

IV

Section 1. Overall policy-making, direction and coordination

73. *Decides* to establish a P-5 post in the Office of the Deputy Secretary-General;

74. *Concurs* with the observations of the Advisory Committee contained in paragraphs I.5, I.6 and I.7 of its report[86] on the need to ensure that the Office of the President of the General Assembly is provided with adequate resources, and decides that, in the interest of clarity and transparency, the resources proposed for support to the President of the Assembly shall be presented separately from the estimates for the travel of representatives of least developed countries to sessions of the Assembly;

75. *Decides* that the resources for the Office of the President of the General Assembly shall be allocated between the presidents of the sessions of the General Assembly to which they relate so as to ensure equitable provision of these resources, taking into account the duration of the term of each president;

76. *Reaffirms* section IV, paragraphs 13 and 14, of its resolution 53/214 of 18 December 1998;

77. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take additional measures to ensure that the representatives of least developed countries are fully and duly informed in a timely manner of their entitlements to travel to sessions of the General Assembly;

78. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to keep under review the activities of the Office of External Relations in order to avoid any possible duplication with other areas of the Secretariat, and to report thereon in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003;

Section 2. General Assembly affairs and conference services

79. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the use of contractual services does not have an adverse impact on conference services or result in additional costs to the Organization;

80. *Reiterates its request* in section III, paragraph 19, of its resolution 52/220 of 22 December 1997;

81. *Decides* to establish four P-4 posts in the Interpretation Section, United Nations Office at Vienna;

82. *Also decides* to redeploy the P-4 post for the Chief of the Spanish Unit, Copy Preparation and Proof-reading Section, Headquarters, New York;

83. *Notes with concern* the proposed reduction of resources for conference services for the biennium 2000–2001, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that efficiency measures are carefully analysed to avoid any negative impact on conference services, in the light of the level and quality of services provided to Member States;

Section 3. Political affairs

84. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee contained in paragraph II.12 of its report[86] with respect to the new Policy Planning Unit;

85. *Reiterates* that any expenditure in excess of the provision approved for special political missions in the proposed programme budget shall continue to be treated in accordance with General Assembly resolution 41/213;

Section 4. Disarmament

86. *Decides* to reclassify to the D-2 level the D-1 post of Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and Chief of the Conference on Disarmament secretariat and Conference Support Branch, Geneva;

87. *Reiterates* paragraph 6 of its resolution 54/55 C of 1 December 1999 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

Section 5. Peacekeeping operations

88. *Emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources to ensure their effective functioning;

Section 7. International Court of Justice

89. *Notes with concern* that the resources proposed for the International Court of Justice are not proportionate with the workload envisaged, and requests the Secretary-General to propose adequate resources for this section in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003, commensurate with its increased workload and the large backlog of volumes of Court documents;

90. *Commends* the response of the Court to earlier requests that it explore vigorously the introduction of modern technology, and recommends that it continue to pursue further the use of such technology, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

Section 9. Economic and social affairs

91. *Decides* to reclassify to the D-1 level the P-5 post of Chief of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section;

92. *Notes* the rapid development of the partnership between the United Nations and the non-governmental organization community, and recognizes, therefore, the additional responsibilities and the increased workload of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section;

93. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session on the administrative and financial issues concerning the Non-Governmental Organizations Section, in particular with regard to the number and level of posts in that Section;

Section 10. Africa: New Agenda for Development

94. *Reaffirms* the important role of the programme entitled "Africa: New Agenda for Development" in addressing Africa's critical socio-economic situation, and reiterates the urgent need to provide the programme with adequate resources to enable it to achieve its objectives;

95. *Also reaffirms* the priority assigned to the development of Africa by the General Assembly, and in this regard reiterates section III, paragraph 48, of its resolution 52/220, in which it called upon the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize additional resources for the implementation of the programme of action contained in the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;

96. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, in a coordinated manner, the effective and timely implementation of the New Agenda;

97. *Emphasizes* the continuing need to focus on the priority areas of the New Agenda and to organize close consultations at both the policy and the operational levels among the various development partners in order to achieve the best results;

Section 11A. Trade and development

98. *Endorses* the agreed conclusions of the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and Programme Budget of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

99. *Emphasizes* the need to provide adequate resources to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in priority areas;

100. *Invites* the Secretary-General to consider the establishment of a new subprogramme on Africa under section 11A, Trade and development, through redeployment subject to the approval of the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the basis of such proposals as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development may wish to make at its tenth session through the Committee for Programme and Coordination;

101. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen the Office of the Special Coordinator for Least Developed, Landlocked and Island Developing Countries in order to enable it to address effectively the concerns of landlocked and transit developing countries;

102. *Notes with concern* that the level of staff and financial resources in the Office of the Special Coordinator is not commensurate with the increased responsibilities and activities deriving from its mandates;

103. *Decides* to re-establish the unit for landlocked developing countries and small island developing States within the Office of the Special Coordinator, and to establish one P-5, two P-4, one P-3 and three General Service posts related thereto, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the effectiveness of the functioning of the unit before the end of the biennium 2000–2001;

104. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review, as a matter of priority, resource requirements for the high-level intergovernmental event on financing for development and the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, and to submit a report to the General Assembly for consideration at the first part of its resumed fifty-fourth session;

105. *Deeply regrets* that its decision in section III, paragraph 49, of its resolution 52/220 has not been implemented, and stresses the need expeditiously to recruit the P-5 post of the Special Coordinator referred to in that resolution;

106. *Notes with concern* that the reference to and resources allocated for the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and the Fourth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices (2000) are not clearly presented under the policy-making organs and the programme support costs, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon in the context of the programme budget performance report for the biennium 2000–2001;

107. *Takes note with concern* of the high vacancy rates for this programme and the adverse effect of this situation on the effective implementation of this programme;

108. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in this regard, urgently to take measures to correct this situation;

Section 12. Environment

109. *Decides* to approve the reformulated fascicle for section 12;[89]

110. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the proposed provisions for this section with a view to ensuring a stable, predictable and viable source of funding in order to avoid heavy reliance upon extrabudgetary resources;

Section 13. Human settlements

111. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with paragraph 229 of the Habitat Agenda[90] and in consultation with the Commission on Human Settlements, to continue to ensure more effective functioning of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) by, *inter alia*, providing sufficient human and financial resources within the regular budget of the United Nations;

112. *Decides* to approve the reformulated programme narrative for section 13;[91]

113. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as a matter of urgency, to appoint, on a full-time basis and at the level of Under-Secretary-General, the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat);

114. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to review the proposed provisions for this section with a view to ensuring a stable, predictable and viable source of funding in order to avoid heavy reliance upon extrabudgetary resources;

Section 15. International drug control

115. *Takes note with concern* of the high dependence of the programme on extrabudgetary resources;

116. *Decides* to appropriate resources for printing under subprogramme 1 at the same level as in the biennium 1998–1999;

Sections 16 to 21. Regional cooperation for development

117. *Emphasizes* the need for greater interaction between the regional commissions and the respective regional organizations;

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[89] See A/C.5/54/20.

[90] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publications, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[91] See A/C.5/54/16.

118. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the regional commissions provide technical assistance to Member States, including through their respective regional organizations;

119. *Commends* the efforts of the regional commissions at reform and streamlining, and encourages them to continue to take, as appropriate and under the auspices of their respective intergovernmental bodies, further measures in this regard;

120. *Expresses deep concern* about the underutilization of the conference centres at Bangkok and Addis Ababa, and requests the Secretary-General to develop and implement a strategy for increasing their use, and to report thereon to the General Assembly by the end of its fifty-fourth session;

Section 16. Economic and social development in Africa

121. *Notes with deep concern* the high vacancy rate in the Economic Commission for Africa, and in this regard reiterates section II, paragraph 23, of its resolution 52/220;

122. *Recalls* section IV, paragraphs 7 and 12, of its resolution 53/214, in which, *inter alia*, it requested the Secretary-General to take all the necessary steps to achieve a vacancy rate of no more than 5 per cent for posts in the Professional and higher categories by the end of the biennium 1998-1999;

123. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures, as a matter of priority, to achieve a vacancy rate of no more than 5 per cent within the biennium in the Economic Commission for Africa, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

124. *Expresses its deep concern* that the Economic Commission for Africa is still suffering from a significantly high vacancy rate at the Professional level, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that all posts budgeted for the biennium 2000-2001 are filled;

125. *Welcomes* the reform process carried out by the Economic Commission for Africa to strengthen its programme of work, in particular with regard to the subregional development centres;

126. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General redeploy to the subregional development centres any savings realized during the biennium as the result of reform measures and efficiency gains from within the Economic Commission for Africa;

127. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders with the core Professional staff required to enable it to function effectively towards the fulfilment of its mandates;

Section 16B. Regional Commissions New York Office

128. *Emphasizes* the need to provide an adequate level of resources for the Regional Commissions New York Office for the effective implementation of its activities;

129. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the classification of General Service posts of the Regional Commissions New York Office;

Section 17. Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific

130. *Notes with concern* the high vacancy rate in the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, which could adversely affect the implementation of mandated programmes and activities, and requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to redress the situation;

Section 18. Economic development in Europe

131. *Commends* the Economic Commission for Europe for the rationalization of its programmes and for the improved presentation of its narratives;

Section 19. Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

132. *Commends* the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for the implementation of the reform programme for the Commission;

133. *Expresses its concern* at the decreasing trend in extrabudgetary resources and at its impact on the level of technical cooperation activities, and requests the Secretary-General to submit proposals to address the adverse impact of declining extrabudgetary resources for the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

134. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all the necessary means are provided for the full implementation of all subprogrammes and their respective activities;

135. *Reaffirms* section III, paragraph 73, of its resolution 52/220, in which it requested the Secretary-General to ensure that all activities included in subprogramme 2 would benefit all members of the region;

Section 22. Human rights

136. *Commends* the Secretary-General for having successfully reduced the vacancy rate in the programme;

137. *Approves* the proposed establishment of a P-4 post for the New York office;

138. *Notes with concern* that paragraph 8 of its resolution 53/78 A of 4 December 1998 has not been fully implemented, requests the Secretary-General to provide the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa with adequate financial resources, and in this regard decides to appropriate an amount of one million dollars in the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001;

139. *Notes with concern* that resources proposed for activities related to the right to development are not clearly identified within subprogramme 1;

140. *Decides* to appropriate an additional amount of 160,000 dollars for activities of the Preparatory Committee related to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance;

141. *Reaffirms* section XI, paragraph 2, of its resolution 44/201 B of 21 December 1989, and recalls section III, paragraphs 74 to 77 and 79, of its resolution 52/220;

142. *Notes* that the General Assembly has not taken action on the report of the Secretary-General requested in section XI, paragraph 2, of its resolution 44/201 B;

143. *Decides*, consistent with section III, paragraph 79, of its resolution 52/220 and pending consideration of the report requested in resolution 44/201 B, to appropriate the resources requested by the Secretary-General in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001,[92] and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to ensure that no funds directly related to non-mandated activities are committed to them;

144. *Also decides* to revert to this issue during its resumed fifty-fourth session;

Section 23. Protection of and assistance to refugees

145. *Notes with concern* that no concrete action was taken by the Secretary-General pursuant to its request in section III, paragraph 82, of its resolution 52/220;

146. *Deeply regrets* the continuing decline of the flow of extrabudgetary resources to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

147. *Emphasizes* that refugees all over the world shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment, taking into account provisions of the relevant international conventions, and stresses the importance of providing adequate assistance to countries hosting refugees;

Section 24. Palestine refugees

148. *Notes with concern* the direct impact of the decrease of extrabudgetary resources on the quality of services provided by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;

149. *Decides* to restore to the regular budget the six international posts (1 D-2, 1 D-1, 1 P-5, 1 P-4, 1 P-3 and 1 General Service) currently financed from the Agency's extrabudgetary resources, in line with General Assembly resolution 3331 B (XXIX) of 17 December 1974;

Section 25. Humanitarian assistance

150. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly by the end of its fifty-fourth session the report requested in section III, paragraph 84, of its resolution 52/220 on the legislative basis and methodology for charging programme support costs for voluntary contributions, in cash or in kind;

Section 26. Public information

151. *Notes with regret* that the pilot web sites in Arabic, Chinese and Russian are being maintained through the use of limited general temporary assistance funds, and in this regard decides to convert the related positions to established posts so as to ensure the equitable representation of all six official languages on the United Nations web sites;

152. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take into account the views of host countries before deciding to merge or close United Nations information centres in Member States;

153. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to consult Member States in which United Nations information centres were merged or closed, with a view to reviving those centres, as appropriate;

154. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to review earlier cases where United Nations information centres were merged with the offices of the United Nations Development Programme, with a view to determining whether such mergers resulted in diminished dissemination of public information;

155. *Recognizes* that radio broadcasting is one of the most effective and far-reaching media available to the Department of Public Information;

156. *Reiterates* paragraph 32 of its resolution 54/82 B of 6 December 1999, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure implementation of the pilot project for the development of an international radio broadcasting capacity for the United Nations[93] as soon as possible, utilizing extrabudgetary resources to the fullest extent possible as well as the resources (496,300 dollars) sought in paragraph 26.69 (c) of his proposals and, if required, other redeployable resources including general operating expenses, within section 26, and to report on progress in the context of the first performance report for the biennium 2000–2001;

157. *Expresses its appreciation* at the fact that there are fifteen languages used to diffuse United Nations radio programmes, news magazines, programmes and multi-segment regional magazines, including Kiswahili;

158. *Notes with concern* that the post of Kiswahili producer was abolished and that for the last fifteen years only one Kiswahili producer has been deployed under a special service agreement, notwithstanding the fact that the Kiswahili language is increasingly gaining ground as it is widely spoken in many African countries and understood in many more countries internationally;

159. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the permanent P-3 post of Kiswahili producer is reinstated and that one additional G-6 assistant is recruited to the Kiswahili programme in order to render it more effective;

160. *Emphasizes* the need for the United Nations to have a coordinated public information strategy, which would bring the activities of different parts of the Secretariat together in an integrated way;

161. *Also emphasizes* that the public information resources of the Organization must be targeted properly so as to ensure that the United Nations delivers a consistent message through a variety of outlets;

162. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the role of the Public Affairs Division, the News and Media Division, the Office of the Spokesman for the Secretary-General and the Office of External Relations and to consider their staffing level in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003;

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[92] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/54/6/Rev.1), vol. III.

[93] See A/AC.198/1999/5.

163. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, pursuant to resolutions 53/22 of 4 November 1998 and 54/113 of 10 December 1999, to optimize the capacity of the Department of Public Information to disseminate information effectively on all activities undertaken in preparation for the year 2001, proclaimed as the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations;

164. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to make all arrangements to optimize the capacity of the Department of Public Information to undertake adequately activities pertaining to the International Year for the Culture of Peace in 2000 and the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001–2010), pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 52/15 of 20 November 1997 and 53/25 of 10 November 1998;

Section 27A. Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management

165. *Emphasizes* that the responsibilities and workload of the secretariat of the Fifth Committee, which also serves as the secretariat of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, require that the secretariat be strengthened;

166. *Decides* to reclassify from D-1 to D-2 and from P-4 to P-5 the posts of Secretary and Deputy Secretary, respectively, of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly and of the Committee for Programme and Coordination;

Section 27C. Office of Human Resources Management

167. *Decides* to approve the proposed reformulation of paragraph 27C.6 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000;[94]

168. *Requests* the Office of Human Resources Management to be more focused on the establishment of a proper system of accountability and responsibility, as well as on the improvement of an effective system of administration of justice, as an integral part of the human resources management reform process;

169. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review carefully the agenda and meeting schedule of the Staff-Management Coordination Committee, with a view to avoiding the holding of inter-sessional meetings, also taking into account the possibilities offered by videoconferencing;

Section 27D. Office of Central Support Services

170. *Decides* to reduce the allocation of resources proposed for general operating expenses by 8.5 million dollars;

171. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on progress made by the United Nations Common Services Task Force on the existing common services, and to expand and develop new ones as appropriate;

172. *Notes* the advanced level of the arrangements for common services and related cost indicators at the United Nations Office at Vienna;

173. *Reiterates* the importance of the security system and security guards of the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to address the level of resources related to the Security and Safety Service, including the reclassification of posts, in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003;

Section 27E. Administration, Geneva

174. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the current security arrangements and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the main part of its fifty-fifth session;

Section 27G. Administration, Nairobi

175. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Secretary-General to increase gradually the regular budget component of the United Nations Office at Nairobi, with a view to easing the administrative costs levied on the substantive programmes of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat);

176. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to present, in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003, in a uniform manner, the cost of the United Nations Office at Nairobi and the rates of reimbursement for services rendered to other organizations at Nairobi;

177. *Requests* the Secretary-General to replace the charge-back procedure for the cost-sharing of expenses for the United Nations Office at Nairobi with a simpler, more reliable and predictable procedure;

178. *Reaffirms* section III, paragraph 101, of its resolution 52/220, in which it requested the Secretary-General to bring the financial arrangements of the United Nations Office at Nairobi into line with those of similar United Nations administrative offices;

179. *Expresses concern* that the conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi are still underutilized, as recorded during the last reporting period;

180. *Decides* to establish a permanent interpretation service at the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

181. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a strategic plan for the full use of conference facilities at Nairobi, so as to ensure that interpretation capacity will be fully utilized;

Section 29. Jointly financed administrative activities

182. *Stresses* the need to ensure that the independence of the Joint Inspection Unit, as the only system-wide external oversight body, is not compromised through the budgetary process;

183. *Reiterates* its decision 54/454 of 23 December 1999;

184. *Reaffirms* the statute of the Joint Inspection Unit,[95] in particular article 20, paragraph 1;

185. *Requests* the Secretary-General, pending the outcome of the review of the Information Systems Coordination

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[94] See A/C.5/54/17.

[95] Resolution 31/192, annex.

Committee, to identify appropriate resources to finance the United Nations share of the cost of the Committee for the first year of the biennium 2000–2001, and to report thereon in the context of the first performance report;

186. *Requests* the Board of Auditors to submit a report on the status of the implementation of the recommendations contained in its report[96] and to make further recommendations in this regard;

Section 31. Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance

187. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly during its fifty-fourth session a detailed and comprehensive report addressing the asbestos problem, including, *inter alia*, the following elements:

(*a*) An assessment of the current situation;

(*b*) An assessment of the impact of the asbestos situation on the health of staff members, delegates and other persons working in and visiting the building;

(*c*) A specific proposal aimed at improving the asbestos situation in the building and a related timetable for its implementation;

(*d*) Information on the level of resources required for the implementation of the plan;

188. *Expresses its concern* at the serious situation of the United Nations Headquarters buildings and the absence of specific proposals in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001 aimed at addressing the situation;

189. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit the master plan for capital improvements requested in paragraph XI.6 of the report of the Advisory Committee[86] no later than February 2000;

Section 33. Development Account

190. *Notes with concern* the late submission of budget proposals on section 33 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that, in future, all budget proposals are submitted in time in accordance with established budgetary procedure;

191. *Emphasizes* that the efficiency measures and the transfer of savings therefrom should not lead to a process of budgetary reduction and should not result in the involuntary separation of staff;

192. *Also emphasizes* that the efficiency measures and the redeployment of savings to the Development Account should not adversely affect the full implementation of all mandated programmes and activities;

193. *Reiterates* that savings to be achieved as a result of the efficiency measures can be identified in the context of budget performance reports and shall be transferred to the Development Account section with the prior approval of the General Assembly;

194. *Also reiterates* that the savings transferred to the Development Account section in accordance with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 54/15 shall form the maintenance base for that section in future proposed programme budgets;

195. *Reaffirms* that the Development Account should be operated strictly in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;

196. *Reiterates* that the anticipated duration of the approved projects contained in the report of the Secretary-General[97] shall not be used as a precedent for setting time limits for the programmes of the regular budget;

197. *Stresses* that in the implementation of the proposals, particular attention should be given to the utilization of technical, human and other resources available in the developing countries;

198. *Reiterates* its decision to keep the implementation of the Development Account under review, and requests the Secretary-General to submit reports in accordance with the relevant regulations and rules;

199. *Stresses* that, in accordance with the established budgetary procedure, comprehensive proposals in the context of the proposed programme budget should be submitted to the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for their recommendations on the proposals of the Secretary-General, for consideration by the Fifth Committee;

200. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that, in the future, project design and implementation should focus on economic and social activities in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

Income section 2. General income

201. *Notes with appreciation* the measures taken to increase the return on United Nations balances and investments, and urges the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to enhance further such returns.

ANNEX I

Changes to the programme narratives of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001, as reflected in the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-ninth session, and additional modifications

Foreword and introduction[98]

1. Delete paragraph 43 and renumber the subsequent paragraphs accordingly

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[96] See A/52/811.

[97] A/C.5/54/37.

[98] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/54/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

2. In former paragraph 189, the first sentence should read: "During the biennium, the Office will perform functions in accordance with General Assembly resolution 48/218 B of 29 July 1994."

Section 1. Overall policy-making, direction and coordination[99]

3. In paragraph 1.50:

(*a*) After the second sentence, insert a new sentence reading "The functions and responsibilities of the Deputy Secretary-General are in accordance with paragraph 1 of resolution 52/12 B."

(*b*) In the penultimate sentence, replace the phrase "This organizational unit" with "The Executive Office of the Secretary-General", and move the sentence so that it follows the first sentence of the paragraph

4. In paragraph 1.65, first sentence, after "Economic and Social Council;", insert "responsibilities entrusted to the Director-General of the Conference on Disarmament;"

5. In paragraph 1.75:

(*a*) In the last sentence, replace "the functions" with "the core functions"

(*b*) In subparagraph (*b*), after "non-governmental organizations", insert "in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council"

Section 2. General Assembly affairs and conference services[99]

6. After paragraph 2.35, add a new paragraph reading:

> "The Division of General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs will also conduct consultations and coordinate the assignment of responsibilities for the implementation of General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions and follow-up to ensure timely action by relevant bodies."

and renumber the subsequent paragraphs accordingly

7. At the end of former paragraph 2.36 (*c*) (i), add "and consultations and coordination for the assignment of responsibilities for the implementation of General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions"

8. After former paragraph 2.45, add a new paragraph reading:

> "Another objective will be to coordinate with relevant bodies to ensure compliance with General Assembly resolutions 52/214 B of 22 December 1997 and 53/208 B of 18 December 1998 regarding the format of reports."

and renumber the subsequent paragraphs accordingly

9. In former paragraph 2.46 (*c*) (ii), after "limitation of documentation;", insert "compliance with resolution 53/208 B on format of reports;"

10. In former paragraph 2.46 (*c*), add:

> "(iii) Provision of interpretation services for meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States, on an ad hoc basis, in accordance with established practice;
>
> "(iv) Provision of facilities for bilateral meetings of heads of State and Government during the sessions of the General Assembly on an 'as available' basis."

Section 3. Political affairs[99]

11. In paragraph 3.2, after the first sentence, insert "A case in point is the promotion of a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the question of Palestine in accordance with all relevant United Nations resolutions."

12. In paragraph 3.37 (*c*) (i), replace "Participation in the activities of" with "Maintenance of contacts for exchanges of information with"

Section 4. Disarmament[99]

13. Replace paragraph 4.2 with the following:

> "The Department for Disarmament Affairs, headed by an Under-Secretary-General, was re-established by the Secretary-General in January 1998 to replace the Centre for Disarmament Affairs as part of his programme for reform. The Secretary-General sought to put in place a new structure that would have the capacity to respond more effectively to the priorities of Member States in the disarmament area. The Department will continue its activities in 2000 and 2001 in the field of disarmament, related to weapons of mass destruction and conventional arms."

14. Replace paragraph 4.3 with the following:

> "In the biennium 2000–2001, the Department will continue to assist Member States in promoting, strengthening and consolidating multilateral principles and norms in all the fields of disarmament. It will expand its outreach activities, including its databases, to ensure the exchange of impartial and factual information on disarmament and security-related matters among the United Nations, Member States, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations and to enhance interaction and cooperation on such matters. The Department will, through its revitalized regional centres for peace and disarmament, assist Member States in promoting the pursuit of regional solutions to regional problems in the field of disarmament."

15. Replace paragraph 4.4 with the following:

> "The legislative authority for the programme under this section derives from the Charter of the United Nations, the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001, as revised (A/53/6/Rev.1), and relevant

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[99] Ibid., vol. II

resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and other legislative organs of the United Nations system."

16. After paragraph 4.4, insert new paragraph 4.5 reading:

"The Conference on Disarmament (until 1984, the Committee on Disarmament) was set up in accordance with paragraph 120 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly (resolution S-10/2) as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community. The Conference is open to the 5 nuclear-weapon States and 61 other States. In addition, some 40 non-member States are invited, upon their request, to participate in its work. The Conference, *inter alia*, conducts its work by consensus, adopts its own rules of procedure, rotates its presidency among all its members on a monthly basis, adopts its own agenda, taking into account the recommendations made to it by the Assembly and the proposals presented by the members of the Conference, and submits a report to the Assembly annually, or more frequently. The Conference divides its annual sessions into three parts and, if necessary, continues its negotiations on priority issues during the inter-sessional periods. Meetings thus are held for seven to nine months each year."

17. After new paragraph 4.5, insert new paragraph 4.6 reading:

"The Disarmament Commission, a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly, was set up in accordance with paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly (resolution S–10/2) as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberation on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues (General Assembly resolution 53/79 A, para. 3)."

18. Replace former paragraph 4.5 with new paragraph 4.7 reading:

"The proposals under this section address current and future trends in the field of disarmament and international security in order to assist Member States, and to enable the Secretary-General also to assist them, in their search for agreement. Apart from substantive issues involved in the deliberative and/or negotiating process, these proposals should also address the challenges arising from the implementation of the relevant General Assembly resolutions as well as relevant treaties."

19 Delete former paragraphs 4.9, 4.10 and 4.11

20 Renumber former paragraphs 4.6, 4.7, 4.8 and 4.12 as paragraphs 4.8, 4.9, 4.10 and 4.11, respectively

21. Replace former paragraph 4.13 with new paragraph 4.12 reading:

"During the biennium 2000–2001, the following objectives will be pursued: to provide organizational and substantive secretariat support to multilateral bodies entrusted with deliberation and/or negotiations on disarmament issues; to follow and assess current and future trends in the field of disarmament and international security in order to assist Member States, and to enable the Secretary-General also to assist them, in their search for agreement; to support and promote regional disarmament efforts and initiatives using approaches freely arrived at by the States of the region and taking into account the legitimate requirements of States for self-defence and the specific characteristics of each region; to strengthen the capacity of the Department as well as that of the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters; to provide impartial, factual information on the disarmament efforts of the United Nations to Member States, parliamentarians, research and academic institutions, and specialized non-governmental organizations through the disarmament information programme and by providing Member States with full access to all relevant databases, including on disarmament; and to continue to inform the public on an objective and updated basis of the United Nations disarmament activities."

22. Replace former paragraph 4.14 with new paragraph 4.13 reading:

"Following the establishment of the Department and its reorganization, its activities have been carried out by five branches and three regional centres as follows: the Conference on Disarmament Secretariat and Conference Support Branch at Geneva, the Weapons of Mass Destruction Branch, the Conventional Arms (including Practical Disarmament Measures) Branch, the Monitoring, Database and Information Branch, the Regional Disarmament Branch and the regional centres for peace and disarmament in Africa, in Asia and the Pacific and in Latin America and the Caribbean."

23. Replace former paragraph 4.15 with new paragraph 4.14 reading:

"Gender mainstreaming can make a contribution to strengthening the Department's ability to carry out key elements of its mandate. In this regard, efforts are being made to increase the number of women on the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters. In the biennium 2000–2001, 25 per cent of the members will be women, up from 8.6 per cent. Gender mainstreaming will also be built into activities pertaining to the establishment of other disarmament and arms control mechanisms, including advocacy."

24. Replace former paragraph 4.16 with new paragraph 4.15 reading:

"The expected accomplishments during the biennium include: assistance in negotiations, deliberations, consensus-building and review conferences of States parties to various multilateral arms limitation and disarmament agreements; increased expertise in the field of arms limitation and disarmament among Member States as a result of the implementation of the disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme; assistance in negotiations, deliberations and consensus-building in the field of weapons of mass

> destruction and conventional weapons, and increased awareness and understanding by Member States of new trends and developments in those fields; promotion of participation in the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms and the United Nations standardized instrument for reporting of military expenditures; assistance in initiatives taken to address illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects; a reinvigorated publications and outreach programme, including a well-developed web site for the Department; effective confidence-building and arms limitation measures in the Central African subregion; and development of politically sound and economically viable projects on demobilization and weapons collection and destruction at the request of Member States."

25. Renumber former paragraphs 4.17 and 4.18 as paragraphs 4.16 and 4.17, respectively

26. In former paragraph 4.17 (*a*) (ii) b. (new para. 4.16 (*a*) (ii) b.), replace "Ottawa Convention" (line 14) with "Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction"

27. In former paragraph 4.17 (*a*) (xviii) (new para. 4.16 (*a*) (xviii)), replace "Ottawa Convention on landmines" with "Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction"

28. In former paragraph 4.18 (new para. 4.17), replace "Ottawa Convention on landmines" (line 6) with "Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction"

Section 5. Peacekeeping operations[99]

29. In paragraph 5.5, last sentence, replace "other missions" with "good offices, preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and humanitarian missions"

30. At the beginning of paragraph 5.6, insert:

> "Every effort will be made to seek the early resolution of conflicts through pacific settlement of disputes by the parties concerned through negotiation, inquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements, or other peaceful means in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. However, peacekeeping will be one of the key instruments available to the United Nations to resolve conflicts and to maintain international peace and security."

Section 6. Peaceful uses of outer space[99]

31. In paragraph 6.4:

(*a*) At the end of the penultimate sentence, after "sustainable development", add "and sustained economic growth"

(*b*) At the end of the paragraph, delete " and landmine detection" and add ", at the request of Governments"

32. In paragraph 6.5, first sentence, after "sustainable development", insert "and sustained economic growth"

Section 9. Economic and social affairs[99]

33. In paragraph 9.4, penultimate sentence, insert "landlocked countries" after "least developed countries,". This change should be reflected throughout the narrative of section 9, wherever reference is made to "least developed countries and small island developing States"

34. In paragraph 9.58, line 4, after "in particular its Second Committee, and,", delete "as appropriate"

35. In paragraph 9.98, line 6, after "(resolution S-19/2),", insert "the resolution endorsing the World Solar Programme 1996–2005 as a contribution to the overall sustainable development agenda, adopted by the General Assembly at its fifty-third session (resolution 53/7),"

36. After paragraph 9.103, add a new paragraph reading:

> "In compliance with General Assembly resolution 53/7 of 16 October 1998, concrete action will be undertaken by the Secretary-General in consultation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme and other relevant organizations to ensure that the World Solar Programme 1996-2005 is fully integrated and brought into the mainstream of the efforts of the United Nations system to attain the objective of sustained economic growth and sustainable development."

and renumber the subsequent paragraphs accordingly

37. In former paragraphs 9.105 (*a*) (v), 9.105 (*b*) (iii) and 9.107, after "integrated water resource management", insert "and development". This change is to be reflected throughout the entire narrative of section 9, wherever reference is made to "integrated water resource management"

Section 10. Africa: New Agenda for Development[99]

38. In paragraph 10.2:

(*a*) At the end of the third sentence, add ", in accordance with General Assembly resolution 53/90 of 7 December 1998 and in the context of the Cairo Agenda for Action: Relaunching Africa's Economic and Social Development"

(*b*) At the end of the paragraph, add a new sentence reading:

> "In its resolution 53/92 of 7 December 1998, the General Assembly welcomed the recommendations of the Secretary-General and requested him to submit a progress report on their implementation to the Assembly at its fifty-fourth session."

Section 11A. Trade and development[99]

39. In table 11A.23, delete the text relating to the Committee for Programme and Coordination

Section 12. Environment[99]

40. Replace the programme narrative and resource tables contained in the proposed programme budget under section 12 with the reformulated fascicle contained in document A/C.5/54/20

Section 13. Human settlements[99]

41. Revise the programme narrative contained in the proposed programme budget under section 13 in accordance with the reformulated narrative contained in document A/C.5/54/16

Section 14. Crime prevention and criminal justice[99]

42. Throughout section 14, insert "in all its forms and manifestations" after "terrorism"

43. In paragraph 14.3 (*b*), replace "to improve the capacity of States" with "to support the strengthening of the capacity of Governments, at their request"

44. In paragraph 14.5, replace "to reform legislation" with "to improve legislation"

45. In paragraph 14.8, third sentence, replace "including law reform" with "the improvement of their legislation"

46. Replace paragraph 14.18 with the following:

> "The focus will be, in particular, on issues such as transnational organized crime, terrorism, the laundering of the proceeds of crime, corruption, environmental offences, illicit traffic in children and economic crime, which are all of primary concern to the international community."

47. In paragraph 14.21 (*a*) (iii), delete ", including early warning mechanisms"

48. Delete references to a proposed additional protocol on computer-related crime to the convention against transnational organized crime and a proposed international convention against corruption and bribery in the following paragraphs: 14.17 (*a*), 14.20 (*b*), 14.21 (*a*) (i) g. and h., 14.21 (*a*) (ii) i. and 14.24 (*a*)

Section 15. International drug control[99]

49. In paragraph 15.4, replace the second sentence with the following:

> "These include the provision of secretariat services to the International Narcotics Control Board and to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, its subsidiary bodies, and to intergovernmental conferences, as well as initiatives which aim to promote adherence to the related conventions and the inclusion of their provisions in national legislation and their effective implementation, and to meet the goals and objectives adopted at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly held in June 1998."

50. In paragraph 15.32 (*d*), replace "including those countries that are not members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN)," with "and other Asian countries"

51. In paragraph 15.35, after subparagraph (*b*), insert a new subparagraph (*c*) reading:

> "Contribution to the achievement of the goals and objectives adopted at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly;"

and renumber the subsequent subparagraphs accordingly

52. At the end of paragraph 15.36 (*a*) (ii) a., insert "biennial reports on the achievement by Member States of the goals and objectives adopted at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly"

53. In paragraph 15.44, insert a new subparagraph (*h*), reading:

> "Strengthening the capacity of the Board to prepare its report, taking into account information provided by the interested Governments."

54. In paragraph 15.48, after subparagraph (*a*), insert a new subparagraph (*b*) reading:

> "Facilitation of the examination of the biennial reports on the achievement by Member States of the goals and objectives adopted at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly;"

and renumber the subsequent subparagraphs accordingly

55. In paragraph 15.56, last sentence, after "the European Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction", insert "the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)"

56. Insert ", including production in enclosed premises" in the following paragraphs, as indicated:

(*a*) Paragraph 15.63, fourth sentence, after "cannabis"

(*b*) Paragraph 15.64, last sentence, after "illicit cultivation"

(*c*) Paragraph 15.65:

- (i) First sentence, after "crops" (in both instances)
- (ii) Fourth sentence, after "illicit cultivation"

(*d*) Paragraph 15.67 (*c*) and (*d*), after "cannabis"

(*e*) Paragraph 15.68 (*b*) (iv) k., line 2, after "illicit crops"

(*f*) Paragraph 15.68 (*d*):

- (i) Subparagraph (ii) after "crop cultivation"
- (ii) Subparagraph (xiii), after "cultivation"
- (iii) Subparagraph (xiv), after "crops"
- (iv) Subparagraphs (xv) and (xvi), after "cultivation"

(*g*) Paragraph 15.69, fourth sentence:

- (i) (*a*) and (*b*), after "crops"
- (ii) (*d*), after "cultivated"
- (iii) (*f*), after "crops"

(*h*) Paragraph 15.70, line 9, after "cultivation"

57. In paragraph 15.65, second sentence, after "States", insert "at their request"

58. In paragraph 15.66:

(*a*) In the last sentence, after "Central and West Asia", insert "South-West Asia,"

(*b*) At the end of the paragraph, insert:

"Cooperation in North America on the reduction and elimination of illicit cultivation of cannabis, including, *inter alia*, in enclosed premises, will also be of particular importance."

Section 17. Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific[92]

59. In paragraph 17.4, replace "will be further reviewed by the Commission at its fifty-fifth session, scheduled for 22 to 28 April 1999" with "was further reviewed and approved by the Commission at its fifty-fifth session, held from 22 to 28 April 1999"

60. In paragraph 17.57 (*a*), line 9, after "violence against women", insert ", including women migrant workers,"

Section 19. Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean[92]

61. In paragraph 19.4:

(*a*) Replace "three fundamental" with "programme 17 of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001 and the following"

(*b*) After "prevailing circumstances", delete the remainder of the paragraph

62. In paragraph 19.51, delete the last sentence

63. Replace paragraph 19.71 (*a*) with the following:

"support of the design and implementation of policies to strengthen domestic capacities in the macroeconomic field;"

64. In paragraph 19.87, delete the second sentence

Section 20. Economic and social development in Western Asia[92]

65. In paragraph 20.3 (*b*), the first sentence should read:

"In line with the revised medium-term plan, gender and issues pertaining to the right to development are mainstreamed in the proposed programme of work for the biennium 2000–2001."

Section 22. Human rights[92]

66. In paragraph 22.1:

(*a*) First sentence, after "realization of", insert "all"

(*b*) Second sentence, after "the programme is based on", insert "the revised medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001 (A/53/6/Rev.1),"

67. Delete paragraph 22.5, and renumber the subsequent paragraphs accordingly

68. Replace former paragraph 22.26 with the following:

"Resource requirements for the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families in 2000–2001 will be submitted when the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families enters into force."

69. In former paragraph 22.45, first sentence, replace "The activities will focus on" with "The primary objectives of this subprogramme will include promotion and protection of the right to development. In this regard, the activities will be"

70. In former paragraph 22.48, first sentence, replace "implementation" with "promotion and protection of"

71. In former paragraph 22.49, subparagraph (*b*) (iii) should read:

"Preparation of a consolidated list of indicators showing success in respecting economic, social and cultural rights in conjunction with the United Nations partner agencies and programmes, taking into account ongoing consideration on this issue."

72. In former paragraph 22.49 (*c*) (i), last line, after "ICRC", insert ",OIC, OAU and OAS"

73. In former paragraph 22.50, line 5, replace "and normative components" with "in consultation with and upon the request of the Member States concerned,"

74. In former paragraph 22.79 (*c*) (i), third sentence, replace "integration of human rights components in the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks" with "increased coordination in support of human rights and fundamental freedoms within the United Nations system"

Section 25. Humanitarian assistance[92]

75. In paragraph 25.17, line 7, replace "ensuring that the humanitarian response of the United Nations system is properly integrated with political and peacekeeping initiatives" with "ensuring a high degree of coherence between assistance and the political and human rights aspects of the United Nations response"

76. In paragraph 25.22, line 4, replace "strategic coordination of humanitarian assistance with political strategy and human rights objectives" with "ensuring a high degree of coherence between assistance and the political and human rights aspects of the United Nations response"

77. Renumber paragraph 25.34 (*a*) (iii) as paragraph 25.34 (*c*) (viii)

Section 26. Public information[92]

78. In paragraph 26.4, first sentence, replace "all Member States" with "the peoples of the world"

79. At the end of paragraph 26.69 (*c*), insert "by launching the pilot project regarding United Nations international radio broadcasting"

Section 27. Management and central support services[92]

80. In paragraph 27A.27 (*d*) (iii), include a reference to the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit

81. In paragraph 27C.5, after the two first sentences, insert the following:

> "The General Assembly decided, in its resolution 53/221 of 7 April 1999, that, before delegating such authority, well designed mechanisms of accountability, including the necessary internal monitoring and control procedures, as well as training, should be put in place. In this regard, the General Assembly requested a comprehensive report on the system of accountability and responsibility. It was also decided that the role of the Office of Human Resources Management and its responsibilities and authority in establishing human resources policies, in the monitoring and approval of the recruitment and placement of staff, as well as in ensuring the full implementation of human resources mandates set by the General Assembly, among its other functions, should be retained and reinforced."

82. Replace paragraph 27C.6 with the reformulated paragraph 27C.6 contained in document A/C.5/54/17

83. At the end of paragraph 27C.31, insert "and to conduct a review of the internal system of justice in order to ensure the timely, fair and effective administration of justice"

Section 28. Internal oversight[92]

84. Replace paragraph 28.3 with the following:

> "In its programme of work for the biennium 2000-2001, the Office of Internal Oversight Services will manage the responsibilities of each oversight unit within the Office to ensure coherence and in order to assist the Secretary-General in fulfilling his internal oversight responsibilities in respect of resources and staff of the Organization through the exercise of the functions enumerated in resolution 48/218 B."

85. Replace paragraph 28.20 with the following:

> "The objectives of the subprogramme are:
>
> "(*a*) To facilitate the assessment by intergovernmental bodies, as systematically as possible, of the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and impact of the activities of programmes in relation to their objectives;
>
> "(*b*) To enable the Secretariat and Member States to engage in systematic reflection with a view to increasing the effectiveness of the main programmes of the Organization by altering their content and, if necessary, reviewing their objectives;
>
> "(*c*) To assist the departments and offices in the Secretariat in implementing approved evaluation recommendations;
>
> "(*d*) To support the evaluation activities of departments and offices."

86. Replace paragraph 28.24 with the following:

> "The expected accomplishments by the end of the biennium consist of increases in the implementation of approved recommendations contained in evaluation reports and the strengthening of the role of self-evaluation within the Organization."

87. Replace the two first sentences of paragraph 28.41 with the following:

> "In its programme of work for the biennium 2000-2001, the Division plans to consolidate its resources to provide comprehensive internal audit coverage. The Division will deliver the following outputs during the biennium:

ANNEX II

Staffing table for 2000 and 2001

	2000	2001
Professional category and above		
Deputy Secretary-General	1	1
Under-Secretary-General	25	25
Assistant Secretary-General	18	18
D-2	79	79
D-1	254	254
P-5	693	693
P-4/3	2 237	2 244
P-2/1	436	436
Total	**3 743**	**3 750**
General Service category		
Principal level	272	272
Other levels	2 731	2 732
Total	**3 003**	**3 004**
Other categories		
Security Services	176	176
Local level	1 630	1 634
Field Service	189	189
Trades and crafts	185	185
Total	**2 180**	**2 184**
Grand total	**8 926**	**8 938**

RESOLUTIONS 54/250 A to C

A

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/691)

B

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/691)

C

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/691)

54/250. Programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001

A

BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE BIENNIUM 2000–2001

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the biennium 2000–2001:

1. Appropriations totalling 2,535,689,200 United States dollars are hereby approved for the following purposes:

Section		*Thousands of United States dollars*
Part I.	**Overall policy-making, direction and coordination**	
1.	Overall policy-making, direction and coordination	47 675.1
2.	General Assembly affairs and conference services	425 970.2
	Total, part I	**473 645.3**
Part II.	**Political affairs**	
3.	Political affairs	137 756.0
4.	Disarmament	14 067.9
5.	Peacekeeping operations	76 094.7
6.	Peaceful uses of outer space	3 667.7
	Total, part II	**231 586.3**
Part III.	**International justice and law**	
7.	International Court of Justice	20 864.5
8.	Legal affairs	34 522.3
	Total, part III	**55 386.8**
Part IV.	**International cooperation for development**	
9.	Economic and social affairs	113 112.6
10.	Africa: New Agenda for Development	5 883.4
11A.	Trade and development	87 685.5
11B.	International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO	19 248.7
12.	Environment	8 743.4
13.	Human settlements	13 757.4
14.	Crime prevention and criminal justice	5 299.1
15.	International drug control	15 037.8
	Total, part IV	**268 767.9**
Part V.	**Regional cooperation for development**	
16.	Economic and social development in Africa	78 455.2
17.	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	57 031.6
18.	Economic development in Europe	40 554.6
19.	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	78 857.5
20.	Economic and social development in Western Asia	50 336.2
21.	Regular programme of technical cooperation	41 995.3
	Total, part V	**347 230.4**
Part VI.	**Human rights and humanitarian affairs**	
22.	Human rights	41 163.4
23.	Protection of and assistance to refugees	41 940.0
24.	Palestine refugees	21 667.9
25.	Humanitarian assistance	18 841.8
	Total, part VI	**123 613.1**
Part VII.	**Public information**	
26.	Public information	143 605.5
	Total, part VII	**143 605.5**
Part VIII.	**Common support services**	
27.	Management and central support services	441 857.4
	Total, part VIII	**441 857.4**

Section	*Thousands of United States dollars*
Part IX. Internal oversight	
28. Internal oversight	19 220.6
Total, part IX	**19 220.6**
Part X. Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses	
29. Jointly financed administrative activities	7 844.3
30. Special expenses	53 001.2
Total, part X	**60 845.5**
Part XI. Capital expenditures	
31. Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	42 617.4
Total, part XI	**42 617.4**
Part XII. Staff assessment	
32. Staff assessment	314 248.0
Total, part XII	**314 248.0**
Part XIII. Development Account	
33. Development Account	13 065.0
Total, part XIII	**13 065.0**
Total, expenditure sections	**2 535 689.2**

2. The Secretary-General shall be authorized to transfer credits between sections of the budget, with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

3. The total net provision made under the various sections of the budget for contractual printing shall be administered as a unit under the direction of the United Nations Publications Board;

4. In addition to the appropriations approved under paragraph 1 above, an amount of 250,000 dollars is appropriated for each year of the biennium 2000–2001 from the accumulated income of the Library Endowment Fund for the purchase of books, periodicals, maps and library equipment and for such other expenses of the Library at the Palais des Nations as are in accordance with the objects and provisions of the endowment.

B

INCOME ESTIMATES FOR THE BIENNIUM 2000-2001

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the biennium 2000–2001:

1. Estimates of income other than assessments on Member States totalling 361,298,900 United States dollars are approved as follows:

Income section	*Thousands of United States dollars*
1. Income from staff assessment	318 911.50
2. General income	37 178.00
3. Services to the public	5 209.40
Total, income sections	**361 298.9**

2. The income from staff assessment shall be credited to the Tax Equalization Fund in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955;

3. Direct expenses of the United Nations Postal Administration, services to visitors, catering and related services, garage operations, television services and the sale of publications, not provided for under the budget appropriations, shall be charged against the income derived from those activities.

C

FINANCING OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2000

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the year 2000:

1. Budget appropriations consisting of 1,267,844,600 United States dollars, being half of the appropriations of 2,535,689,200 dollars approved for the biennium 2000–2001 by the General Assembly under paragraph 1 of resolution A above, less 41,601,500 dollars, being the decrease in revised appropriations for the biennium 1998–1999 approved by the Assembly in its resolution 54/247 A of 23 December 1999, shall be financed in accordance with regulations 5.1 and 5.2 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations as follows:

(*a*) 24,968,700 dollars, consisting of 21,193,700 dollars, being the net of half of the estimated income other than staff assessment approved for the biennium 2000–2001 under resolution B above, plus 3,775,000 dollars, being the increase in income other than staff assessment for the biennium 1998-1999;

(*b*) 1,201,274,400 dollars, being the assessment on Member States in accordance with its resolution 52/215 A of 22 December 1997 and 54/237 A of 23 December 1999 on the scale of assessments for the year 2000;

2. There shall be set off against the assessment on Member States, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the total amount of 149,354,550 dollars, consisting of:

(*a*) 159,455,750 dollars, being half of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the biennium 2000–2001 under resolution B above;

(*b*) Less 10,101,200 dollars, being the decrease in income from staff assessment for the biennium 1998–1999 approved by the Assembly in its resolution 54/247 B of 23 December 1999.

RESOLUTION 54/251

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/691)

54/251. Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001

The General Assembly

I

REQUEST FOR SUBVENTION TO THE UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR DISARMAMENT RESEARCH RESULTING FROM THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INSTITUTE CONTAINED IN THE REPORT OF THE BOARD[100]

Approves the recommendation of a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research of 213,000 United States dollars from the regular budget of the United Nations for 2000, on the understanding that no additional appropriation would be required under section 4, Disarmament, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001;[101]

II

JOINT INSPECTION UNIT

Approves the gross budget for the Joint Inspection Unit for the biennium 2000–2001 in the amount of 7,334,400 dollars;[102]

III

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Approves a gross budget for the International Civil Service Commission for the biennium 2000–2001 in the amount of 12,254,800 dollars;[102]

IV

REVISED ESTIMATES RESULTING FROM RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AT ITS SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF 1999

Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General[103] on the revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1999;

V

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES OF THE UNITED NATIONS JOINT STAFF PENSION FUND

Having considered the report of the Standing Committee of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board to the General Assembly and to the member organizations of the United

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[100] A/54/201, annex II, paras. 10–13.

[101] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/54/6/Rev.1), vol. II.

[102] Ibid., vol. III, sect. 29.

[103] A/54/443 and Add.1.

Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund,[104] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[105]

1. *Concurs* with the recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund;[105]

2. *Approves* expenses, chargeable directly to the Fund, totalling 62,301,100 dollars net for the biennium 2000–2001 and an increase of 3,282,800 dollars net for the biennium 1998–1999, for the administration of the Fund;

3. *Also approves* an addition to the regular budget of the United Nations for the biennium 2000–2001 in the amount of 401,400 dollars for the United Nations share of the cost of the administrative expenses of the central secretariat of the Fund, and an increase of 18,400 dollars in the estimates of income from rental of premises;

4. *Authorizes* the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board to supplement the voluntary contributions to the Emergency Fund for the biennium 2000–2001 by an amount not exceeding 200,000 dollars;

VI

CONTINGENCY FUND

Notes that a balance of 16,362,700 dollars remains in the contingency fund;[106]

VII

UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL COORDINATOR FOR THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS AND PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION AND THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[107] on the revised estimates under section 3, Political affairs, and section 5, Peacekeeping operations, and the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions thereon;[108]

2. *Approves* the charge of total requirements of 3,755,800 dollars against the provisions proposed for special political missions under section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001[101] in accordance with General Assembly resolution 53/206 of 18 December 1998, and concurs that the related provisions for the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, already included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001, shall be transferred from section 5, Peacekeeping operations, to section 3, Political affairs;

VIII

SPECIAL POLITICAL MISSIONS

Notes that the current utilization of the provision for special political missions amounts to 55,363,100 dollars and that an unallocated balance of 35,024,100 dollars remains against the provision of 90,387,200 dollars for special political missions;[109]

IX

CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL CONFERENCE FACILITIES AT ADDIS ABABA

Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the construction of additional conference facilities at Addis Ababa;[110]

X

INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL PRINTING PRACTICES OF THE ORGANIZATION

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General on the internal and external printing practices of the Organization[111] and the recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[112]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the internal and external printing practices of the Organization to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

XI

RENTAL OF UNITED NATIONS PREMISES BY PRESS AND OTHER ENTITIES

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General on the rental of United Nations premises by press and other entities[113] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[114]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the outstanding information to the Advisory Committee as requested;

3. *Decides* to revert to the subject at its resumed fifty-fourth session;

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[104] A/54/206.

[105] A/54/7/Add.1. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

[106] See A/C.5/54/46.

[107] A/C.5/54/40.

[108] A/54/7/Add.11. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

[109] See A/C.5/54/45.

[110] A/54/431.

[111] A/C.5/54/18.

[112] A/54/7/Add.5, paras. 16–19. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

[113] A/C.5/54/25.

[114] A/54/7/Add.5, paras. 25–28. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

XII

SECTION 26. PUBLIC INFORMATION

Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General;[115]

XIII

USE OF GENERAL TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR SPECIFIC POSITIONS

Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General on the use of general temporary assistance for specific positions,[116] and endorses the recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[117]

XIV

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Takes note of the information provided in the report of the Secretary-General,[118] and concurs with the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[119] that, on an exceptional basis, the special account be maintained and the unspent balance retained until all the activities and programmes outlined in the report of the Secretary-General of 13 May 1998[120] and approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 53/3 of 12 October 1998 are completed.

RESOLUTION 54/252

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/691)

54/252. Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 2000–2001

The General Assembly

1. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and subject to the Financial Regulations of the United Nations and the provisions of paragraph 3 below, to enter into commitments in the biennium 2000–2001 to meet unforeseen and extraordinary expenses arising either during or subsequent to the biennium, provided that the concurrence of the Advisory Committee shall not be necessary for:

(*a*) Such commitments, not exceeding a total of 8 million United States dollars in any one year of the biennium 2000–2001, as the Secretary-General certifies relate to the maintenance of peace and security;

(*b*) Such commitments as the President of the International Court of Justice certifies relate to expenses occasioned by:

(i) The designation of ad hoc judges (Statute of the International Court of Justice, Article 31), not exceeding a total of 330,000 dollars;

(ii) The calling of witnesses and the appointment of experts (Statute, Article 50) and the appointment of assessors (Statute, Article 30), not exceeding a total of 50,000 dollars;

(iii) The maintenance in office for the completion of cases of judges who have not been re-elected (Statute, Article 13, paragraph 3), not exceeding a total of 40,000 dollars;

(iv) The payment of pensions and travel and removal expenses of retiring judges, and travel and removal expenses and installation grant of members of the Court (Statute, Article 32, paragraph 7), not exceeding a total of 410,000 dollars;

(v) The work of the Court or its Chambers away from The Hague (Statute, Article 22), not exceeding a total of 25,000 dollars;

(*c*) Such commitments, in an amount not exceeding 500,000 dollars, in the biennium 2000–2001, as the Secretary-General certifies are required for interorganizational security measures pursuant to section IV of General Assembly resolution 36/235 of 18 December 1981;

2. *Resolves* that the Secretary-General shall report to the Advisory Committee and to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth and fifty-sixth sessions all commitments made under the provisions of the present resolution, together with the circumstances relating thereto, and shall submit supplementary estimates to the Assembly in respect of such commitments;

3. *Decides* that, for the biennium 2000–2001, if a decision of the Security Council results in the need for the Secretary-General to enter into commitments relating to the maintenance of peace and security in an amount exceeding 10 million dollars in respect of the decision, that matter shall be brought to the General Assembly, or, if the Assembly is suspended or not in session, a resumed or special session of the Assembly shall be convened by the Secretary-General to consider the matter.

RESOLUTION 54/253

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 23 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/691)

54/253. Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2000–2001

The General Assembly

Resolves that:

1. The Working Capital Fund shall be established for the biennium 2000–2001 in the amount of 100 million United States dollars;

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[115] A/C.5/54/27.

[116] A/C.5/54/33.

[117] A/54/7/Add.5, paras. 34–44. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

[118] See A/54/501.

[119] A/54/7/Add.3, para. 7. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

[120] A/52/898 and Corr.1.

2. Member States shall make advances to the Working Capital Fund in accordance with the scale adopted by the General Assembly for contributions of Member States to the budget for the year 2000;

3. There shall be set off against this allocation of advances:

(*a*) Credits to Member States resulting from transfers made in 1959 and 1960 from the surplus account to the Working Capital Fund in an adjusted amount of 1,025,092 dollars;

(*b*) Cash advances paid by Member States to the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 1998–1999 in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/224 of 22 December 1997;

4. Should the credits and advances paid by any Member State to the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 1998–1999 exceed the amount of that Member State's advance under the provisions of paragraph 2 above, the excess shall be set off against the amount of the contributions payable by the Member State in respect of the biennium 2000–2001;

5. The Secretary-General is authorized to advance from the Working Capital Fund:

(*a*) Such sums as may be necessary to finance budgetary appropriations pending the receipt of contributions; sums so advanced shall be reimbursed as soon as receipts from contributions are available for the purpose;

(*b*) Such sums as may be necessary to finance commitments that may be duly authorized under the provisions of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, in particular resolution 54/252 of 23 December 1999 relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates for reimbursing the Working Capital Fund;

(*c*) Such sums as may be necessary to continue the revolving fund to finance miscellaneous self-liquidating purchases and activities which, together with net sums outstanding for the same purpose, do not exceed 200,000 dollars; advances in excess of the total of 200,000 dollars may be made with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(*d*) With the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee, such sums as may be required to finance payments of advance insurance premiums where the period of insurance extends beyond the end of the biennium in which payment is made; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates of each biennium, during the life of the related policies, to cover the charges applicable to each biennium;

(*e*) Such sums as may be necessary to enable the Tax Equalization Fund to meet current commitments pending the accumulation of credits; such advances shall be repaid as soon as credits are available in the Tax Equalization Fund;

6. Should the provision in paragraph 1 above prove inadequate to meet the purposes normally related to the Working Capital Fund, the Secretary-General is authorized to utilize, in the biennium 2000–2001, cash from special funds and accounts in his custody, under the conditions approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 1341 (XIII) of 13 December 1958, or the proceeds of loans authorized by the Assembly.

VI. RESOLUTONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE SIXTH COMMITTEE

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RESOLUTION 54/27

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 November 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/609)

54/27. Outcome of the action dedicated to the 1999 centennial of the first International Peace Conference

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the commitment of the United Nations and its Member States to the adherence to and the development of international law as a basis for conducting international relations,

Recognizing the historical importance of the first International Peace Conference, held at the Hague in 1899, for the rule of international law, the peaceful settlement of disputes, the development and codification of international law and the practice of multilateral diplomacy,

Recalling that, in accordance with its previous resolutions,[1] the centennial of the first International Peace Conference coincides with the closing of the United Nations Decade of International Law and could be considered as a third international peace conference,

Recalling also that the Decade was closed by the General Assembly in plenary meeting on 17 November 1999,[2]

Recalling with gratitude the initiatives for the celebration of the centennial of the first International Peace Conference by the Governments of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Russian Federation with regard to the themes of the Conference: development of international law relating to disarmament and arms control, humanitarian law and laws of war, and peaceful settlement of disputes,[3]

Recalling that those initiatives called for, *inter alia*, discussions on the themes on the basis of in-depth reports at the global, regional and national levels by intergovernmental, governmental, diplomatic, academic and civil society experts at conferences, seminars and other meetings, as well as through the Internet, to be reported on to the General Assembly for consideration at its fifty-fourth session,[4]

Noting that the general outcome of those discussions was that, while progressive development and codification of international law remains important, the furtherance of the rule of international law would best be served by the faithful compliance of States with existing international obligations, focusing more on the timely implementation of these obligations,

Noting also that the year 1999 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the four Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[5]

Noting further that the Permanent Court of Arbitration was established in 1899 as a result of the first International Peace Conference,

Convinced that the legacies of the first International Peace Conference have been enhanced by the centennial initiatives and by the discussions in the General Assembly in plenary meeting at the closing of the Decade,

1. *Takes note with interest* of the outcome of the action dedicated to the centennial of the first International Peace Conference, reported by the co-hosts, the Governments of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Russian Federation;[6]

2. *Commends* all who, through their efforts, wisdom and expertise, contributed to the success of the celebration of the centennial of the first International Peace Conference;

3. *Also commends* the International Committee of the Red Cross for its work in promoting adherence to and compliance with the four Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[5] and other instruments of international humanitarian law;

4. *Congratulates* the Permanent Court of Arbitration on its one hundredth anniversary;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for bringing the outcome of the action dedicated to the centennial of the first International Peace Conference to the attention of the relevant international forums;

6. *Invites* States, organs of the United Nations, international organizations and other relevant international forums to take note of the outcome of the action dedicated to the centennial of the first International Peace Conference and to consider, where appropriate:

(*a*) Giving attention to the outcome of the thematic discussions within the sphere of their respective competencies or mandates;

(*b*) Making use in the future of the format of the discussions of the centennial of the first International Peace Conference in accordance with any relevant rules and procedures;

7. *Invites*:

(*a*) The Governments of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Russian Federation to file the records of the centennial of the first International Peace Conference in their archives and to provide access to those records to interested parties;

(*b*) All who contributed to the centennial of the first International Peace Conference to file their records in this respect with either of these Governments.

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[1] Notably resolutions 44/23, 51/157, 52/153 and 53/100.

[2] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 54th and 55th meetings (A/54/PV.54 and 55), and corrigendum.

[3] See resolutions 51/159, 52/154 and 53/99; see also A/C.6/52/3, A/C.6/53/10 and A/C.6/53/11.

[4] See "The Hague Agenda for Peace and Justice for the Twenty-first Century" (A/54/98, annex).

[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[6] A/54/381, annex.

RESOLUTION 54/28

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 17 November 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/609)

54/28. United Nations Decade of International Law

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/23 of 17 November 1989, by which it declared the period 1990–1999 the United Nations Decade of International Law,

Recalling also that the main purposes of the Decade, according to resolution 44/23, should be, *inter alia*:

(*a*) To promote acceptance of and respect for the principles of international law,

(*b*) To promote means and methods for the peaceful settlement of disputes between States, including resort to and full respect for the International Court of Justice,

(*c*) To encourage the progressive development of international law and its codification,

(*d*) To encourage the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law,

Noting the conclusion of the Decade,

Reaffirming its resolution 53/101 of 8 December 1998, entitled "Principles and guidelines for international negotiations", adopted within the framework of the Decade,

Greatly encouraged by the significant achievements in the development and promotion of international law which occurred during the Decade, which has contributed to the strengthening of the rule of international law,

Recognizing that, *inter alia*, the establishment of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in 1993, the International Tribunal for Rwanda in 1994 and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in 1996 and the adoption of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court in 1998[7] constitute significant events within the Decade,

Recognizing also efforts made during the Decade by Legal Advisers of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs worldwide to create a common understanding of their role through annual informal consultations at United Nations Headquarters,

Convinced that the end of the Decade affords the international community an opportunity to reflect on those achievements and that States, international organizations and educational institutions should continue to encourage and promote activities in the legal field aimed at contributing to its main purposes,

Convinced also of the need to continue aiming towards the implementation of the main purposes of the Decade,

Welcoming the significant increase in the recourse to the International Court of Justice by States for the settlement of disputes,

Noting that international humanitarian law has been an important topic during the Decade, and mindful of the contributions made in this field by the International Committee of the Red Cross and the international conferences of the Red Cross and Red Crescent,

Noting also that the year 1999 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the four Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[8]

Expressing its appreciation to the Governments of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Russian Federation for their efforts in realization of the programme of action dedicated to the centennial of the first International Peace Conference, which could be regarded as a significant contribution to the Decade,

Taking note with interest of the consideration of the outcome of the action dedicated to the 1999 centennial of the first International Peace Conference in the General Assembly during its fifty-fourth session,[9]

Expressing its gratitude to the rapporteurs and all organizations, groups and individuals who contributed to the discussion of the centennial themes,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[10] and expressing its appreciation therefor,

Noting the deposit by the Secretary-General, on 21 December 1998, of an act of formal confirmation, on behalf of the United Nations, of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organizations or between International Organizations of 21 March 1986,[11]

Welcoming the progress that has been made towards eliminating the backlog in the publication of the United Nations *Treaty Series* by the implementation of a plan to be completed in 2001, and stressing the need for the elimination of such a backlog, as well as for a comprehensive electronification of the work of the Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat,

Recalling that, at the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly, the Sixth Committee established the Working Group on the United Nations Decade of International Law,

Noting that the Working Group continued its work during the fifty-fourth session in accordance with resolution 53/100 of 8 December 1998,

Having considered the oral report presented by the Chairperson of the Working Group to the Sixth Committee,[12]

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[7] A/CONF.183/9.

[8] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[9] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 54th and 55th meetings (A/54/PV.54 and 55), and corrigendum.

[10] A/54/362 and Add.1.

[11] A/CONF.129/15.

[12] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Sixth Committee*, 33rd meeting (A/C.6/54/SR.33), and corrigendum.

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work done by the Working Group on the United Nations Decade of International Law;

2. *Acknowledges* that the Decade has contributed significantly to the strengthening of the rule of international law;

3. *Reaffirms* the continued validity of the main objectives of the Decade, the fulfilment of which is essential to achieve the purposes of the United Nations;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to States and international organizations and institutions that have undertaken activities in the implementation of the programme for the activities for the final term (1997–1999) of the Decade;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue developing the electronic database of the Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat, with a view to providing Member States expeditiously with a wider range of easily accessible treaty-related information in the electronic medium, and to keep the list, now available on the Internet, of the titles of multilateral treaties deposited with him updated in all official languages of the Organization;

6. *Urges* States and international organizations, in particular depositaries, to continue assisting the Secretariat in its efforts to expedite the registration of treaties and their publication by providing it with paper copies of treaties, or electronic copies, including maps, for registration and, wherever possible, translations of treaties in English or French;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement vigorously the plan to eliminate the backlog in the publication of the United Nations *Treaty Series*, and highlights, in this context, the relevance of timely translations;

8. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Office of Legal Affairs for the establishment during the Decade of various Internet web sites and the United Nations Audiovisual Library in International Law, and takes note of its efforts to maintain those sites and the Library;

9. *Notes* the publication by the Office of Legal Affairs of the *Collection of Essays by Legal Advisers of States, Legal Advisers of International Organizations and Practitioners in the Field of International Law*[13] and its intention to issue in 2000 two publications on international instruments related to the prevention and suppression of international terrorism and on the United Nations and the development of international law during the 1990s, in order to highlight the work accomplished in this area during the Decade;

10. *Invites* States, organs of the United Nations, international organizations and other relevant international forums to continue to give attention to the themes and outcome of the centennial of the first International Peace Conference;

11. *Congratulates* the Permanent Court of Arbitration on its one hundredth anniversary, commends it for its role in the international system of peaceful resolution of disputes, and invites States to consider making full use of the facilities of the Court and to support its work;[14]

12. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Committee of the Red Cross for the activities undertaken in the field of international humanitarian law, including with regard to the protection of the environment in times of armed conflict;

13. *Invites* States and international organizations to continue promoting the acceptance of and respect for the rules and principles of international law;

14. *Welcomes* the achievements during the Decade in the codification and progressive development of international law, and calls upon States, in order to contribute further to the rule of international law, to consider, if they have not yet done so, becoming parties to the multilateral treaties adopted during the Decade, including those listed in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General;[10]

15. *Invites* States and international organizations to continue promoting the strengthening of the use of means and methods of peaceful settlement of disputes;

16. *Recalls* that States have the obligation to solve their disputes by peaceful means, including resort to the International Court of Justice, and that one of the main purposes of the Decade is to promote the full respect for the Court in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations;

17. *Invites* States to continue to pay attention to the identification of areas of international law that might be ripe for progressive development or codification, and to promote discussion thereon in the competent forums;

18. *Invites* States and international organizations to continue encouraging the publication of books or other materials on subjects of international law and the holding of symposia, conferences, seminars or other meetings aimed at promoting a wider appreciation of international law;

19. *Invites* States to continue encouraging educational institutions to introduce or increase the number of courses of international law;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of States, international organizations and institutions working in the field of international law;

21. *Decides* to continue considering developments in the progress made in the implementation of the purposes of the Decade beyond its conclusion, in the framework of the agenda item entitled "United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law".

RESOLUTION 54/101

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 9 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/607)

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[13] United Nations publication, Sales No. E/F/S.99.V.13.

[14] See A/54/381, annex, para. 9.

54/101. Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/98 of 8 December 1998,

Having considered the report of the Working Group on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property of the International Law Commission, set forth in the annex to the report of the Commission on the work of its fifty-first session,[15]

Having considered also the report presented to the Sixth Committee by the Chairman of the open-ended working group of the Committee established under resolution 53/98,[16]

Having considered further the report of the Secretary-General,[17]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Working Group on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property of the International Law Commission, set forth in the annex to the report of the Commission on the work of its fifty-first session;[15]

2. *Urges* States, if they have not yet done so, to submit their comments to the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly resolution 49/61 of 9 December 1994, and also invites States to submit in writing to the Secretary-General, by 1 August 2000, their comments on the report of the Working Group;[16]

3. *Decides* that the open-ended working group of the Sixth Committee established under resolution 53/98 will continue its work at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly to consider the future form of, and outstanding substantive issues related to, the draft articles on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property adopted by the International Law Commission at its forty-third session;[18]

4. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property".

RESOLUTION 54/102

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 9 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/608)

54/102. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

The General Assembly,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law[19] and the guidelines and recommendations on future implementation of the Programme which were adopted by the Advisory Committee on the Programme and are contained in section III of that report,

Considering that international law should occupy an appropriate place in the teaching of legal disciplines at all universities,

Noting with appreciation the efforts made by States at the bilateral level to provide assistance in the teaching and study of international law,

Convinced, nevertheless, that States and international organizations and institutions should be encouraged to give further support to the Programme and increase their activities to promote the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, in particular those activities which are of special benefit to persons from developing countries,

Reaffirming its resolutions 2464 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, 2550 (XXIV) of 12 December 1969, 2838 (XXVI) of 18 December 1971, 3106 (XXVIII) of 12 December 1973, 3502 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, 32/146 of 16 December 1977, 36/108 of 10 December 1981 and 38/129 of 19 December 1983, in which it stated or recalled that in the conduct of the Programme it was desirable to use as far as possible the resources and facilities made available by Member States, international organizations and others, as well as its resolutions 34/144 of 17 December 1979, 40/66 of 11 December 1985, 42/148 of 7 December 1987, 44/28 of 4 December 1989, 46/50 of 9 December 1991 and 48/29 of 9 December 1993, in which, in addition, it expressed or reaffirmed the hope that, in appointing lecturers for the seminars to be held within the framework of the fellowship programme in international law, account would be taken of the need to secure the representation of major legal systems and balance among various geographical regions,

Welcoming the establishment of the United Nations Audiovisual Library in International Law,

1. *Approves* the guidelines and recommendations contained in section III of the report of the Secretary-General[19] and adopted by the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, in particular those designed to achieve the best possible results in the administration of the Programme within a policy of maximum financial restraint;

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[15] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 10* and corrigenda (A/54/10 and Corr.1 and 2).

[16] See A/C.6/54/L.12; see also *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Sixth Committee*, 30th meeting (A/C.6/54/SR.30), and corrigendum.

[17] A/54/266.

[18] *Yearbook of the International Law Commission, 1991*, vol. II, Part Two (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.V.9 (Part 2)), document A/46/10, chap. II, para. 28.

[19] A/54/515.

2. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to carry out in 2000 and 2001 the activities specified in his report, including the provision of:

(*a*) A number of international law fellowships in both 2000 and 2001, to be determined in the light of the overall resources for the Programme and to be awarded at the request of Governments of developing countries;

(*b*) A minimum of one scholarship in both 2000 and 2001 under the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, subject to the availability of new voluntary contributions made specifically to the fellowship fund;

(*c*) Subject to the overall resources for the Programme, assistance in the form of a travel grant for one participant from each developing country, who would be invited to possible regional courses to be organized in 2000 and 2001;

and to finance the above activities from provisions in the regular budget, when appropriate, as well as from voluntary financial contributions earmarked for each of the activities concerned, which would be received as a result of the requests set out in paragraphs 13 to 15 below;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his constructive efforts to promote training and assistance in international law within the framework of the Programme in 1998 and 1999, in particular for the organization of the thirty-fourth[20] and thirty-fifth[21] sessions of the International Law Seminar, held at Geneva in 1998 and 1999, respectively, and for the activities of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat related to the fellowship programme in international law and to the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, carried out, respectively, through its Codification Division and its Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider the possibility of admitting, for participation in the various components of the Programme, candidates from countries willing to bear the entire cost of such participation;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to consider the relative advantages of using available resources and voluntary contributions for regional, subregional or national courses, as against courses organized within the United Nations system;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary resources to the programme budget for the Programme for the next and the future bienniums with a view to maintaining the effectiveness of the Programme;

7. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Office of Legal Affairs to bring up to date the United Nations *Treaty Series* and the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook*, as well as efforts made to place on the Internet the *Treaty Series* and other legal information;

8. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research for its participation in the Programme through the activities described in the report of the Secretary-General;

9. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for its participation in the Programme through the activities described in the report of the Secretary-General;

10. *Further expresses its appreciation* to the Hague Academy of International Law for the valuable contribution it continues to make to the Programme, which has enabled candidates under the fellowship programme in international law to attend and participate in the Programme in conjunction with the Academy courses;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions of the Hague Academy of International Law to the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, and calls upon Member States and interested organizations to give favourable consideration to the appeal of the Academy for a continuation of support and a possible increase in their financial contributions, to enable the Academy to carry out its activities, particularly those relating to the summer courses, regional courses and programmes of the Centre for Studies and Research in International Law and International Relations;

12. *Urges* all States and relevant international organizations, whether regional or universal, to make all possible efforts to implement the goals and carry out the activities contemplated in section IV of the programme of activities for the final term (1997–1999) of the United Nations Decade of International Law, dealing with the encouragement of the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law and contained in the annex to resolution 51/157 of 16 December 1996;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to publicize the Programme and periodically to invite Member States, universities, philanthropic foundations and other interested national and international institutions and organizations, as well as individuals, to make voluntary contributions towards the financing of the Programme or otherwise to assist in its implementation and possible expansion;

14. *Reiterates its request* to Member States and to interested organizations and individuals to make voluntary contributions, *inter alia*, for the International Law Seminar, the fellowship programme in international law, the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea and the United Nations Audiovisual Library in International Law, and expresses its appreciation to those Member States, institutions and individuals which have made voluntary contributions for this purpose;

15. *Urges* in particular all Governments to make voluntary contributions for the organization of regional refresher courses in international law by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, especially with a view to covering the amount needed for the financing of the daily subsistence allowance for up to twenty-five participants in each regional course, thus alleviating the burden on prospective host countries and making it possible for the Institute to continue to organize the regional courses;

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[20] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 10* and corrigendum (A/53/10 and Corr.1), chap. X, sect. H.

[21] Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 10* and corrigenda (A/54/10 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. X, sect. E.

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the Programme during 2000 and 2001 and, following consultations with the Advisory Committee on the Programme, to submit recommendations regarding the execution of the Programme in subsequent years;

17. *Decides* to appoint twenty-five Member States, six from Africa, five from Asia, three from Eastern Europe, five from Latin America and the Caribbean and six from Western Europe and other States, as members of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, for a period of four years beginning on 1 January 2000;[22]

18. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law".

RESOLUTION 54/103

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 9 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/611)

54/103. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-second session

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it created the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

Reaffirming its conviction that the progressive harmonization and unification of international trade law, in reducing or removing legal obstacles to the flow of international trade, especially those affecting the developing countries, would contribute significantly to universal economic cooperation among all States on a basis of equality, equity and common interest and to the elimination of discrimination in international trade and, thereby, to the well-being of all peoples,

Emphasizing the need for higher priority to be given to the work of the Commission in view of the increasing value of the modernization of international trade law for global economic development and thus for the maintenance of friendly relations among States,

Stressing the value of participation by States at all levels of economic development and from different legal systems in the process of harmonizing and unifying international trade law,

Having considered the report of the Commission on the work of its thirty-second session,[23]

Mindful of the valuable contribution to be rendered by the Commission within the framework of the United Nations Decade of International Law, in particular as regards the dissemination of international trade law,

Concerned that activities undertaken by other bodies of the United Nations system in the field of international trade law without coordination with the Commission might lead to undesirable duplication of efforts and would not be in keeping with the aim of promoting efficiency, consistency and coherence in the unification and harmonization of international trade law, as stated in its resolution 37/106 of 16 December 1982,

Stressing the importance of the further development of the Case Law on United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Texts in promoting the uniform application of the legal texts of the Commission and its value for government officials, practitioners and academics,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-second session;[23]

2. *Commends* the Commission for the progress made in its work on receivables financing, electronic commerce, privately financed infrastructure projects and the legislative implementation of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, done at New York on 10 June 1958;[24]

3. *Appeals* to Governments that have not yet done so to reply to the questionnaire circulated by the Secretariat in relation to the legal regime governing the recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards;

4. *Invites* States to nominate persons to work with the private foundation established to encourage assistance to the Commission from the private sector;

5. *Reaffirms* the mandate of the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, to coordinate legal activities in this field, and in this connection:

(*a*) Calls upon all bodies of the United Nations system and invites other international organizations to bear in mind the mandate of the Commission and the need to avoid duplication of effort and to promote efficiency, consistency and coherence in the unification and harmonization of international trade law;

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[22] States appointed members of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law are the following: Canada, Colombia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Ghana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Portugal, Russian Federation, Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay.

[23] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/54/17).

[24] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 330, No. 4739.

(*b*) Recommends that the Commission, through its secretariat, continue to maintain close cooperation with the other international organs and organizations, including regional organizations, active in the field of international trade law;

6. *Also reaffirms* the importance, in particular for developing countries, of the work of the Commission concerned with training and technical assistance in the field of international trade law, such as assistance in the preparation of national legislation based on legal texts of the Commission;

7. *Expresses the desirability* for increased efforts by the Commission, in sponsoring seminars and symposia, to provide such training and technical assistance, and in this connection:

(*a*) Expresses its appreciation to the Commission for organizing seminars and briefing missions in Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, China, Guatemala, Mexico, Mongolia, Peru, Romania, Venezuela and Zambia;

(*b*) Expresses its appreciation to the Governments whose contributions allowed the seminars and briefing missions to be organized, and appeals to Governments, the relevant United Nations organs, organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Trust Fund for Symposia and, where appropriate, to the financing of special projects, and otherwise to assist the secretariat of the Commission in financing and organizing seminars and symposia, in particular in developing countries, and in the award of fellowships to candidates from developing countries to enable them to participate in such seminars and symposia;

8. *Appeals* to the United Nations Development Programme and other bodies responsible for development assistance, such as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, as well as to Governments in their bilateral aid programmes, to support the training and technical assistance programme of the Commission and to cooperate and coordinate their activities with those of the Commission;

9. *Appeals* to Governments, the relevant United Nations organs, organizations, institutions and individuals, in order to ensure full participation by all Member States in the sessions of the Commission and its working groups, to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund for travel assistance to developing countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General;

10. *Decides*, in order to ensure full participation by all Member States in the sessions of the Commission and its working groups, to continue, in the competent Main Committee during the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly, its consideration of granting travel assistance to the least developed countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure and enhance the effective implementation of the programme of the Commission;

12. *Stresses* the importance of bringing into effect the conventions emanating from the work of the Commission for the global unification and harmonization of international trade law, and to this end urges States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to those conventions.

RESOLUTION 54/104

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 9 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/612)

54/104. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country,[25]

Recalling Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[26] the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations[27] and the responsibilities of the host country,

Recognizing that effective measures should continue to be taken by the competent authorities of the host country, in particular to prevent any acts violating the security of missions and the safety of their personnel,

Noting the spirit of cooperation and mutual understanding that has guided the deliberations of the Committee on issues affecting the United Nations community and the host country,

Noting also that the membership of the Committee has been increased by four additional Member States,[28] and welcoming their participation in the work of the Committee,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations and conclusions of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country contained in paragraph 43 of its report;[25]

2. *Considers* that the maintenance of appropriate conditions for the normal work of the delegations and the missions accredited to the United Nations is in the interest of the United Nations and all Member States, and requests the host country to continue to take all measures necessary to prevent any interference with the functioning of missions;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the host country, and hopes that the issues raised at the meetings of the Committee will continue to be resolved in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law;

4. *Notes* that during the reporting period the travel controls previously imposed by the host country on staff of certain missions and staff members of the Secretariat of certain nationalities remained in effect, and requests the host country

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[25] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/54/26).

[26] Resolution 22 A (I).

[27] See resolution 169 (II).

[28] Cuba, Hungary, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Malaysia.

to consider removing such travel controls, and in this regard notes the positions of affected States, of the Secretary-General and of the host country;

5. *Requests* the host country to continue to take steps to resolve the problem relating to the parking of diplomatic vehicles in a fair, balanced and non-discriminatory way, with a view to responding to the growing needs of the diplomatic community, and to continue to consult with the Committee on this important issue;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain actively engaged in all aspects of the relations of the United Nations with the host country;

7. *Requests* the Committee to continue its work in conformity with General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) of 15 December 1971;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country".

RESOLUTION 54/105

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 9 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/613)

54/105. Establishment of the International Criminal Court

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/33 of 25 November 1992, 48/31 of 9 December 1993, 49/53 of 9 December 1994, 50/46 of 11 December 1995, 51/207 of 17 December 1996, 52/160 of 15 December 1997 and 53/105 of 8 December 1998,

Noting that the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court was adopted on 17 July 1998[29] and is open for signature in New York at United Nations Headquarters until 31 December 2000, and taking note of the Final Act of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court done at Rome on 17 July 1998,[30]

Noting in particular that the Conference decided to establish a Preparatory Commission for the Court[31] and that the Commission has held three sessions, from 16 to 26 February, 26 July to 13 August and 29 November to 17 December 1999,

Bearing in mind the mandate of the Preparatory Commission, as set out in resolution F adopted by the Conference, with regard to the preparation of proposals for practical arrangements for the establishment and coming into operation of the Court, including the finalization before 30 June 2000 of the draft texts of the rules of procedure and evidence and of the elements of crimes,[31]

Recalling, with regard to the future work of the Preparatory Commission and related working groups, the specific arrangements agreed upon by the Commission and referred to in paragraph 8 of the summary of the proceedings of its second session,[32]

Recognizing the continuing need for making available adequate resources and secretariat services to the Preparatory Commission in order to enable it to discharge its functions efficiently and expeditiously,

Emphasizing the need to make the necessary arrangements for the commencement of the functions of the International Criminal Court in order to ensure its effective operation,

Noting that a number of States have deposited their instruments of ratification and that a significant and growing number of States have signed the Rome Statute,

1. *Reiterates* the historic significance of the adoption of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;[29]

2. *Calls upon* all States to consider signing and ratifying the Rome Statute, and encourages efforts aimed at promoting awareness of the results of the Conference and of the provisions of the Statute;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene the Preparatory Commission, in accordance with resolution F adopted by the Conference,[31] from 13 to 31 March, 12 to 30 June and 27 November to 8 December 2000, to carry out the mandate in that resolution and, in that connection, to discuss ways to enhance the effectiveness and acceptance of the Court;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make available to the Preparatory Commission secretariat services, including the preparation of working documents if so requested by the Commission, to enable it to perform its functions;

5. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to invite, as observers to the Preparatory Commission, representatives of organizations and other entities that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly, pursuant to its relevant resolutions,[33] to participate in the capacity of observers in its sessions and work, and also to invite as observers to the Commission representatives of interested regional intergovernmental organizations and other interested international bodies, including the international tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda;

6. *Notes* that non-governmental organizations may participate in the work of the Preparatory Commission by attending its plenary and other open meetings, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Commission, receiving copies of the official documents and making available their materials to delegates;

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[29] A/CONF.183/9.

[30] A/CONF.183/10.

[31] Ibid., annex I.

[32] See PCNICC/1999/L.4/Rev.1 and Corr.1.

[33] Resolutions 253 (III), 477 (V), 2011 (XX), 3208 (XXIX), 3237 (XXIX), 3369 (XXX), 31/3, 33/18, 35/2, 35/3, 36/4, 42/10, 43/6, 44/6, 45/6, 46/8, 47/4, 48/2, 48/3, 48/4, 48/5, 48/237, 48/265, 49/1, 49/2, 50/2, 51/1, 51/6, 51/204, 52/6, 53/5, 53/6, 53/216, 54/5 and 54/10.

7. *Encourages* States to make voluntary contributions to the trust funds established pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 51/207 and 52/160, the mandates of which were expanded pursuant to Assembly resolution 53/105, towards meeting the costs of the participation in the work of the Preparatory Commission of the least developed countries and of those developing countries not covered by the trust fund established pursuant to resolution 51/207;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Establishment of the International Criminal Court".

RESOLUTION 54/106

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 9 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/614)

54/106. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3499 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, by which it established the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, and its relevant resolutions adopted at subsequent sessions,

Recalling also its resolution 47/233 of 17 August 1993 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,

Recalling further its resolution 47/62 of 11 December 1992 on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council,

Taking note of the report of the Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters Related to the Security Council,[34]

Recalling the elements relevant to the work of the Special Committee contained in its resolution 47/120 B of 20 September 1993,

Recalling also its resolution 51/241 of 31 July 1997 on the strengthening of the United Nations system and its resolution 51/242 of 15 September 1997, entitled "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace", by which it adopted the texts on coordination and the question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations, which are annexed to that resolution,

Recalling further that the International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, and reaffirming its authority and independence,

Considering the desirability of finding practical ways and means of strengthening the Court,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*,[35]

Recalling its resolution 53/106 of 8 December 1998,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee on the work of its session held in 1999,[36]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization;[36]

2. *Decides* that the Special Committee shall hold its next session from 10 to 20 April 2000;

3. *Requests* the Special Committee, at its session in 2000, in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 50/52 of 11 December 1995:

(*a*) To continue its consideration of all proposals concerning the question of the maintenance of international peace and security in all its aspects in order to strengthen the role of the United Nations and, in this context, to consider other proposals relating to the maintenance of international peace and security already submitted or which may be submitted to the Special Committee at its session in 2000;

(*b*) To continue to consider on a priority basis the question of the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter, taking into consideration the reports of the Secretary-General,[37] the proposals submitted on this question, the debate on the question in the Sixth Committee at the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly and the text on the question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations contained in annex II to Assembly resolution 51/242, and also the implementation of the provisions of Assembly resolutions 50/51 of 11 December 1995, 51/208 of 17 December 1996, 52/162 of 15 December 1997 and 53/107 of 8 December 1998;

(*c*) To continue its work on the question of the peaceful settlement of disputes between States and, in this context, to continue its consideration of proposals relating to the peaceful settlement of disputes between States, including the proposal on the establishment of a dispute settlement service offering or responding with its services early in disputes and those proposals relating to the enhancement of the role of the International Court of Justice;

(*d*) To continue to consider proposals concerning the Trusteeship Council in the light of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/55 of 11 December 1995,[38] the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform"[39] and the views expressed by States on this subject at the previous sessions of the General Assembly;

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[34] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 47* (A/53/47).

[35] A/54/363.

[36] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 33* and corrigendum (A/54/33 and Corr.1).

[37] A/48/573–S/26705 (see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*), A/49/356, A/50/60–S/1995/1 (ibid., *Fiftieth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1995*), A/50/361, A/50/423, A/51/317, A/52/308 and A/53/312.

(*e*) To continue to consider, on a priority basis, ways and means of improvingits working methods and enhancing its efficiency with a view to identifying widely acceptable measures for future implementation;

4. *Takes note* of paragraph 33 of the report of the Secretary-General,[35] commends the Secretary-General for his continued efforts to reduce the backlog in the publication of the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*, and endorses the efforts of the Secretary-General to eliminate the backlog in the publication of the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*;

5. *Invites* the Special Committee at its session in 2000 to continue to identify new subjects for consideration in its future work with a view to contributing to the revitalization of the work of the United Nations, to discuss how to offer its assistance to the working groups of the General Assembly in this field and, in this regard, to consider ways and means of improving coordination between the Special Committee and other working groups dealing with the reform of the Organization, including the role of the Chairperson of the Special Committee for this purpose;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at the fifty-fifth session;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization".

RESOLUTION 54/107

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 9 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/614)

54/107. Implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions

The General Assembly,

Concerned about the special economic problems confronting certain States arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures taken by the Security Council against other States, and taking into account the obligation of Members of the United Nations under Article 49 of the Charter of the United Nations to join in affording mutual assistance in carrying out the measures decided upon by the Security Council,

Recalling the right of third States confronted with special economic problems of that nature to consult the Security Council with regard to a solution of those problems, in accordance with Article 50 of the Charter,

Recognizing the desirability of the consideration of further appropriate procedures for consultations to deal in a more effective manner with the problems referred to in Article 50 of the Charter,

Recalling:

(*a*) The report of the Secretary-General entitled "An Agenda for Peace",[40] in particular paragraph 41 thereof,

(*b*) Its resolution 47/120 A of 18 December 1992, entitled "An Agenda for Peace: preventive diplomacy and related matters", its resolution 47/120 B of 20 September 1993, entitled "An Agenda for Peace", in particular section IV thereof, entitled "Special economic problems arising from the implementation of preventive or enforcement measures", and its resolution 51/242 of 15 September 1997, entitled "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace", in particular annex II thereof, entitled "Question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations",

(*c*) The position paper of the Secretary-General entitled "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace",[41]

(*d*) The statement by the President of the Security Council of 22 February 1995,[42]

(*e*) The report of the Secretary-General[43] prepared pursuant to the statement by the President of the Security Council[44] regarding the question of special economic problems of States as a result of sanctions imposed under Chapter VII of the Charter,

(*f*) The reports of the Secretary-General on economic assistance to States affected by the implementation of the Security Council resolutions imposing sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia[45] and General Assembly resolutions 48/210 of 21 December 1993, 49/21 A of 2 December 1994, 50/58 E of 12 December 1995, 51/30 A of 5 December 1996 and 52/169 H of 16 December 1997,

(*g*) The reports of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization on the work of its sessions held in the years 1994 to 1999,[46]

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[38] A/50/1011.

[39] A/51/950 and Add.1–7.

[40] A/47/277–S/24111; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-seventh Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1992*, document S/24111.

[41] A/50/60–S/1995/1; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1995*, document S/1995/1.

[42] S/PRST/1995/9; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1995*.

[43] A/48/573–S/26705; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1993*, document S/26705.

[44] S/25036; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-seventh Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1992*.

[45] A/49/356, A/50/423, A/51/356 and A/52/535.

(*h*) The reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter,[47]

Taking note of the most recent report of the Secretary-General, submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 53/107 of 8 December 1998,[48]

Recalling that the question of assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions has been addressed recently in several forums, including the General Assembly and its subsidiary organs and the Security Council,

Recalling also the measures taken by the Security Council in accordance with the statement by the President of the Security Council of 16 December 1994[49] that, as part of the effort of the Council to improve the flow of information and the exchange of ideas between members of the Council and other States Members of the United Nations, there should be increased recourse to open meetings, in particular at an early stage in its consideration of a subject,

Stressing that, in the formulation of sanctions regimes, due account should be taken of the potential effects of sanctions on third States,

Stressing also, in this context, the powers of the Security Council under Chapter VII of the Charter and the primary responsibility of the Council under Article 24 of the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security in order to ensure prompt and effective action by the United Nations,

Recalling that, under Article 31 of the Charter, any Member of the United Nations that is not a member of the Security Council may participate, without vote, in the discussion of any question brought before the Council whenever the latter considers that the interests of that Member are specially affected,

Recognizing that the imposition of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter has been causing special economic problems in third States and that it is necessary to intensify efforts to address those problems effectively,

Taking into consideration the views of third States which could be affected by the imposition of sanctions,

Recognizing that assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions would further contribute to an effective and comprehensive approach by the international community to sanctions imposed by the Security Council,

Recognizing also that the international community at large and, in particular, international institutions involved in providing economic and financial assistance should continue to take into account and address in a more effective manner the special economic problems of affected third States arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures taken by the Security Council under Chapter VII of the Charter, in view of their magnitude and of the adverse impact on the economy of those States,

Recalling the provisions of its resolutions 50/51 of 11 December 1995, 51/208 of 17 December 1996, 52/162 of 15 December 1997 and 53/107 of 8 December 1998,

1. *Renews its invitation* to the Security Council to consider the establishment of further mechanisms or procedures, as appropriate, for consultations as early as possible under Article 50 of the Charter of the United Nations with third States which are or may be confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures imposed by the Council under Chapter VII of the Charter, with regard to a solution of those problems, including appropriate ways and means for increasing the effectiveness of its methods and procedures applied in the consideration of requests by the affected States for assistance;

2. *Welcomes once again* the further measures taken by the Security Council since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 50/51, most recently the note by the President of the Security Council of 29 January 1999[50] aimed at improving the work of the sanctions committees, including increasing the effectiveness and transparency of the sanctions committees, invites the Council to implement those measures, and strongly recommends that the Council continue its efforts to further enhance the functioning of the sanctions committees, to streamline their working procedures and to facilitate access to them by representatives of States that find themselves confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of sanctions;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to pursue the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/51, 51/208, 52/162 and 53/107 and to ensure that the competent units within the Secretariat develop the adequate capacity and appropriate modalities, technical procedures and guidelines to continue, on a regular basis, to collate and coordinate information about international assistance available to third States affected by the implementation of sanctions, to continue developing a possible methodology for assessing the adverse consequences actually incurred by third States and to explore innovative and practical measures of assistance to the affected third States;

4. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General containing a summary of the deliberations and main findings

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[46] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/49/33); ibid., *Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/50/33); ibid., *Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/51/33); ibid., *Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 33* and corrigendum (A/52/33 and Corr.1); ibid., *Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/53/33); and ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 33* and corrigendum (A/54/33 and Corr.1).

[47] A/50/361, A/51/317, A/52/308 and A/53/312.

[48] A/54/383.

[49] See PRST/1994/81; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1994*.

[50] S/1999/92; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1999*.

of the ad hoc expert group meeting on developing a methodology for assessing the consequences incurred by third States as a result of preventive or enforcement measures and on exploring innovative and practical measures of international assistance to the affected third States,[51] and invites States and relevant international organizations within and outside the United Nations system which have not yet done so to provide their views regarding the report of the ad hoc expert group meeting;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present to the General Assembly his views on the deliberations and main findings, including the recommendations, of the ad hoc expert group on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions, taking into account the views of States, the organizations of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and other international organizations, and to provide the relevant information, where appropriate, on other developments in this context, particularly on the work of the sanctions committees as referred to in the note by the President of the Security Council;[50]

6. *Reaffirms* the important role of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Committee for Programme and Coordination in mobilizing and monitoring, as appropriate, the economic assistance efforts by the international community and the United Nations system to States confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures imposed by the Security Council and, as appropriate, in identifying solutions to the special economic problems of those States;

7. *Takes note* of the decision of the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1999/59 of 30 July 1999, to continue consideration of the question of assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions, and decides to transmit the most recent report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions[48] to the Council at its substantive session of 2000;

8. *Invites* the organizations of the United Nations system, international financial institutions, other international organizations, regional organizations and Member States to address more specifically and directly, where appropriate, special economic problems of third States affected by sanctions imposed under Chapter VII of the Charter and, for this purpose, to consider improving procedures for consultations to maintain a constructive dialogue with such States, including through regular and frequent meetings as well as, where appropriate, special meetings between the affected third States and the donor community, with the participation of United Nations agencies and other international organizations;

9. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, at its session in 2000, to contunue consider on a priority basis the question of the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter, taking into consideration all the related reports of the Secretary-General, in particular the 1998 report containing a summary of the deliberations and main findings of the ad hoc expert group meeting convened pursuant to paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 52/162,[51] together with the most recent report of the Secretary-General on this question,[48] the proposals submitted on the question, the debate on the question in the Sixth Committee during the fifty-fourth session of the Assembly and the text on the question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations contained in annex II to Assembly resolution 51/242, as well as the implementation of the provisions of Assembly resolutions 50/51, 51/208, 52/162 and 53/107 and the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to consider, within the Sixth Committee, or if necessary within a working group of the Committee, at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly, further progress in the elaboration of effective measures aimed at the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, under the agenda item entitled "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization".

RESOLUTION 54/108

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 9 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/614)

54/108. Strengthening of the International Court of Justice

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations,

Noting an increase in the recourse to the Court by States and the effects of such an increase on its operation,

Recalling its resolution 53/106 of 8 December 1998, in which it requested the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization to consider practical ways and means of strengthening the International Court of Justice,

Bearing in mind the comments and observations submitted by the Court and by States on the consequences that the increase in the volume of cases before the Court has on its operation,[52]

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Court of Justice for the measures adopted to operate an increased workload with maximum efficiency;

2. *Invites* the Court to keep its working methods under periodic review and to adopt additional measures aimed at expediting its proceedings;

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[51] A/53/312.

[52] See A/53/326 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

3. *Invites* States that appear before the Court to consider favourably the guidance offered by the Court in paragraph 3 of the annex to the report of the Secretary-General containing the comments and observations of the Court,[52] and to adopt, whenever possible, any other measure that may help to expedite the proceedings.

RESOLUTION 54/109

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 9 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/615)

54/109. International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, including resolution 46/51 of 9 December 1991, resolution 49/60 of 9 December 1994, by which it adopted the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, and resolutions 51/210 of 17 December 1996 and 53/108 of 8 December 1998,

Having considered the text of the draft international convention for the suppression of the financing of terrorism prepared by the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 and the Working Group of the Sixth Committee,[53]

1. *Adopts* the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism annexed to the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to open it for signature at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 10 January 2000 to 31 December 2001;

2. *Urges* all States to sign and ratify, accept, approve or accede to the Convention.

ANNEX

International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism

Preamble

The States Parties to this Convention,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations concerning the maintenance of international peace and security and the promotion of good-neighbourliness and friendly relations and cooperation among States,

Deeply concerned about the worldwide escalation of acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Recalling the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations, contained in General Assembly resolution 50/6 of 24 October 1995,

Recalling also all the relevant General Assembly resolutions on the matter, including resolution 49/60 of 9 December 1994 and the annex thereto on the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, in which the States Members of the United Nations solemnly reaffirmed their unequivocal condemnation of all acts, methods and practices of terrorism as criminal and unjustifiable, wherever and by whomever committed, including those which jeopardize the friendly relations among States and peoples and threaten the territorial integrity and security of States,

Noting that the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism also encouraged States to review urgently the scope of the existing international legal provisions on the prevention, repression and elimination of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, with the aim of ensuring that there is a comprehensive legal framework covering all aspects of the matter,

Recalling paragraph 3 (*f*) of General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996, in which the Assembly called upon all States to take steps to prevent and counteract, through appropriate domestic measures, the financing of terrorists and terrorist organizations, whether such financing is direct or indirect through organizations which also have or claim to have charitable, social or cultural goals or which are also engaged in unlawful activities such as illicit arms trafficking, drug dealing and racketeering, including the exploitation of persons for purposes of funding terrorist activities, and in particular to consider, where appropriate, adopting regulatory measures to prevent and counteract movements of funds suspected to be intended for terrorist purposes without impeding in any way the freedom of legitimate capital movements and to intensify the exchange of information concerning international movements of such funds,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 52/165 of 15 December 1997, in which the Assembly called upon States to consider, in particular, the implementation of the measures set out in paragraphs 3 (*a*) to (*f*) of its resolution 51/210,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 53/108 of 8 December 1998, in which the Assembly decided that the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 should elaborate a draft international convention for the suppression of terrorist financing to supplement related existing international instruments,

Considering that the financing of terrorism is a matter of grave concern to the international community as a whole,

Noting that the number and seriousness of acts of international terrorism depend on the financing that terrorists may obtain,

Noting also that existing multilateral legal instruments do not expressly address such financing,

Being convinced of the urgent need to enhance international cooperation among States in devising and adopting effective measures for the prevention of the financing of terrorism, as well as for its suppression through the prosecution and punishment of its perpetrators,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

For the purposes of this Convention:

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[53] A/C.6/54/L.2, annex I.

1. "Funds" means assets of every kind, whether tangible or intangible, movable or immovable, however acquired, and legal documents or instruments in any form, including electronic or digital, evidencing title to, or interest in, such assets, including, but not limited to, bank credits, travellers cheques, bank cheques, money orders, shares, securities, bonds, drafts and letters of credit.

2. "State or government facility" means any permanent or temporary facility or conveyance that is used or occupied by representatives of a State, members of Government, the legislature or the judiciary or by officials or employees of a State or any other public authority or entity or by employees or officials of an intergovernmental organization in connection with their official duties.

3. "Proceeds" means any funds derived from or obtained, directly or indirectly, through the commission of an offence set forth in article 2.

Article 2

1. Any person commits an offence within the meaning of this Convention if that person by any means, directly or indirectly, unlawfully and wilfully, provides or collects funds with the intention that they should be used or in the knowledge that they are to be used, in full or in part, in order to carry out:

(*a*) An act which constitutes an offence within the scope of and as defined in one of the treaties listed in the annex; or

(*b*) Any other act intended to cause death or serious bodily injury to a civilian, or to any other person not taking an active part in the hostilities in a situation of armed conflict, when the purpose of such act, by its nature or context, is to intimidate a population, or to compel a Government or an international organization to do or to abstain from doing any act.

2. (*a*) On depositing its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, a State Party which is not a party to a treaty listed in the annex may declare that, in the application of this Convention to the State Party, the treaty shall be deemed not to be included in the annex referred to in paragraph 1, subparagraph (*a*). The declaration shall cease to have effect as soon as the treaty enters into force for the State Party, which shall notify the depositary of this fact;

(*b*) When a State Party ceases to be a party to a treaty listed in the annex, it may make a declaration as provided for in this article, with respect to that treaty.

3. For an act to constitute an offence set forth in paragraph 1, it shall not be necessary that the funds were actually used to carry out an offence referred to in paragraph 1, subparagraph (*a*) or (*b*).

4. Any person also commits an offence if that person attempts to commit an offence as set forth in paragraph 1 of this article.

5. Any person also commits an offence if that person:

(*a*) Participates as an accomplice in an offence as set forth in paragraph 1 or 4 of this article;

(*b*) Organizes or directs others to commit an offence as set forth in paragraph 1 or 4 of this article;

(*c*) Contributes to the commission of one or more offences as set forth in paragraph 1 or 4 of this article by a group of persons acting with a common purpose. Such contribution shall be intentional and shall either:

(i) Be made with the aim of furthering the criminal activity or criminal purpose of the group, where such activity or purpose involves the commission of an offence as set forth in paragraph 1 of this article; or

(ii) Be made in the knowledge of the intention of the group to commit an offence as set forth in paragraph 1 of this article.

Article 3

This Convention shall not apply where the offence is committed within a single State, the alleged offender is a national of that State and is present in the territory of that State and no other State has a basis under article 7, paragraph 1 or 2, to exercise jurisdiction, except that the provisions of articles 12 to 18 shall, as appropriate, apply in those cases.

Article 4

Each State Party shall adopt such measures as may be necessary:

(*a*) To establish as criminal offences under its domestic law the offences as set forth in article 2;

(*b*) To make those offences punishable by appropriate penalties which take into account the grave nature of the offences.

Article 5

1. Each State Party, in accordance with its domestic legal principles, shall take the necessary measures to enable a legal entity located in its territory or organized under its laws to be held liable when a person responsible for the management or control of that legal entity has, in that capacity, committed an offence as set forth in article 2. Such liability may be criminal, civil or administrative.

2. Such liability is incurred without prejudice to the criminal liability of individuals who have committed the offences.

3. Each State Party shall ensure, in particular, that legal entities liable in accordance with paragraph 1 above are subject to effective, proportionate and dissuasive criminal, civil or administrative sanctions. Such sanctions may include monetary sanctions.

Article 6

Each State Party shall adopt such measures as may be necessary, including, where appropriate, domestic legislation, to ensure that criminal acts within the scope of this Convention are under no circumstances justifiable by considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or other similar nature.

Article 7

1. Each State Party shall take such measures as may be necessary to establish its jurisdiction over the offences set forth in article 2 when:

(*a*) The offence is committed in the territory of that State;

(*b*) The offence is committed on board a vessel flying the flag of that State or an aircraft registered under the laws of that State at the time the offence is committed;

(*c*) The offence is committed by a national of that State.

2. A State Party may also establish its jurisdiction over any such offence when:

(*a*) The offence was directed towards or resulted in the carrying out of an offence referred to in article 2, paragraph 1, subparagraph (*a*) or (*b*), in the territory of or against a national of that State;

(*b*) The offence was directed towards or resulted in the carrying out of an offence referred to in article 2, paragraph 1, subparagraph (*a*) or (*b*), against a State or government facility of that State abroad, including diplomatic or consular premises of that State;

(*c*) The offence was directed towards or resulted in an offence referred to in article 2, paragraph 1, subparagraph (*a*) or (*b*), committed in an attempt to compel that State to do or abstain from doing any act;

(*d*) The offence is committed by a stateless person who has his or her habitual residence in the territory of that State;

(*e*) The offence is committed on board an aircraft which is operated by the Government of that State.

3. Upon ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to this Convention, each State Party shall notify the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the jurisdiction it has established in accordance with paragraph 2. Should any change take place, the State Party concerned shall immediately notify the Secretary-General.

4. Each State Party shall likewise take such measures as may be necessary to establish its jurisdiction over the offences set forth in article 2 in cases where the alleged offender is present in its territory and it does not extradite that person to any of the States Parties that have established their jurisdiction in accordance with paragraphs 1 or 2.

5. When more than one State Party claims jurisdiction over the offences set forth in article 2, the relevant States Parties shall strive to coordinate their actions appropriately, in particular concerning the conditions for prosecution and the modalities for mutual legal assistance.

6. Without prejudice to the norms of general international law, this Convention does not exclude the exercise of any criminal jurisdiction established by a State Party in accordance with its domestic law.

Article 8

1. Each State Party shall take appropriate measures, in accordance with its domestic legal principles, for the identification, detection and freezing or seizure of any funds used or allocated for the purpose of committing the offences set forth in article 2 as well as the proceeds derived from such offences, for purposes of possible forfeiture.

2. Each State Party shall take appropriate measures, in accordance with its domestic legal principles, for the forfeiture of funds used or allocated for the purpose of committing the offences set forth in article 2 and the proceeds derived from such offences.

3. Each State Party concerned may give consideration to concluding agreements on the sharing with other States Parties, on a regular or case-by-case basis, of the funds derived from the forfeitures referred to in this article.

4. Each State Party shall consider establishing mechanisms whereby the funds derived from the forfeitures referred to in this article are utilized to compensate the victims of offences referred to in article 2, paragraph 1, subparagraph (*a*) or (*b*), or their families.

5. The provisions of this article shall be implemented without prejudice to the rights of third parties acting in good faith.

Article 9

1. Upon receiving information that a person who has committed or who is alleged to have committed an offence set forth in article 2 may be present in its territory, the State Party concerned shall take such measures as may be necessary under its domestic law to investigate the facts contained in the information.

2. Upon being satisfied that the circumstances so warrant, the State Party in whose territory the offender or alleged offender is present shall take the appropriate measures under its domestic law so as to ensure that person's presence for the purpose of prosecution or extradition.

3. Any person regarding whom the measures referred to in paragraph 2 are being taken shall be entitled:

(*a*) To communicate without delay with the nearest appropriate representative of the State of which that person is a national or which is otherwise entitled to protect that person's rights or, if that person is a stateless person, the State in the territory of which that person habitually resides;

(*b*) To be visited by a representative of that State;

(*c*) To be informed of that person's rights under subparagraphs (*a*) and (*b*).

4. The rights referred to in paragraph 3 shall be exercised in conformity with the laws and regulations of the State in the territory of which the offender or alleged offender is present, subject to the provision that the said laws and regulations must enable full effect to be given to the purposes for which the rights accorded under paragraph 3 are intended.

5. The provisions of paragraphs 3 and 4 shall be without prejudice to the right of any State Party having a claim to jurisdiction in accordance with article 7, paragraph 1, subparagraph (*b*), or paragraph 2, subparagraph (*b*), to invite the International Committee of the Red Cross to communicate with and visit the alleged offender.

6. When a State Party, pursuant to the present article, has taken a person into custody, it shall immediately notify, directly or through the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the States Parties which have established jurisdiction in accordance with article 7, paragraph 1 or 2, and, if it considers it advisable, any other interested States Parties, of the fact that such person is in custody and of the circumstances which warrant that person's detention. The State which makes the investigation contemplated in paragraph 1 shall promptly inform the said States Parties of its findings and shall indicate whether it intends to exercise jurisdiction.

Article 10

1. The State Party in the territory of which the alleged offender is present shall, in cases to which article 7 applies, if it does not extradite that person, be obliged, without exception whatsoever and whether or not the offence was committed in its territory, to submit the case without undue delay to its competent authorities for the purpose of prosecution, through proceedings in accordance with the laws of that State. Those authorities shall take their decision in the same manner as in the case of any other offence of a grave nature under the law of that State.

2. Whenever a State Party is permitted under its domestic law to extradite or otherwise surrender one of its nationals only upon the condition that the person will be returned to that State to serve the sentence imposed as a result of the trial or proceeding for which the extradition or surrender of the person was sought, and this State and the State seeking the extradition of the person agree with this option and other terms they may deem appropriate, such a conditional extradition or surrender shall be sufficient to discharge the obligation set forth in paragraph 1.

Article 11

1. The offences set forth in article 2 shall be deemed to be included as extraditable offences in any extradition treaty existing between any of the States Parties before the entry into force of this Convention. States Parties undertake to include such offences as extraditable offences in every extradition treaty to be subsequently concluded between them.

2. When a State Party which makes extradition conditional on the existence of a treaty receives a request for extradition from another State Party with which it has no extradition treaty, the requested State Party may, at its option, consider this Convention as a legal basis for extradition in respect of the offences set forth in article 2. Extradition shall be subject to the other conditions provided by the law of the requested State.

3. States Parties which do not make extradition conditional on the existence of a treaty shall recognize the offences set forth in article 2 as extraditable offences between themselves, subject to the conditions provided by the law of the requested State.

4. If necessary, the offences set forth in article 2 shall be treated, for the purposes of extradition between States Parties, as if they had been committed not only in the place in which they occurred but also in the territory of the States that have established jurisdiction in accordance with article 7, paragraphs 1 and 2.

5. The provisions of all extradition treaties and arrangements between States Parties with regard to offences set forth in article 2 shall be deemed to be modified as between States Parties to the extent that they are incompatible with this Convention.

Article 12

1. States Parties shall afford one another the greatest measure of assistance in connection with criminal investigations or criminal or extradition proceedings in respect of the offences set forth in article 2, including assistance in obtaining evidence in their possession necessary for the proceedings.

2. States Parties may not refuse a request for mutual legal assistance on the ground of bank secrecy.

3. The requesting Party shall not transmit or use information or evidence furnished by the requested Party for investigations, prosecutions or proceedings other than those stated in the request without the prior consent of the requested Party.

4. Each State Party may give consideration to establishing mechanisms to share with other States Parties information or evidence needed to establish criminal, civil or administrative liability pursuant to article 5.

5. States Parties shall carry out their obligations under paragraphs 1 and 2 in conformity with any treaties or other arrangements on mutual legal assistance or information exchange that may exist between them. In the absence of such treaties or arrangements, States Parties shall afford one another assistance in accordance with their domestic law.

Article 13

None of the offences set forth in article 2 shall be regarded, for the purposes of extradition or mutual legal assistance, as a fiscal offence. Accordingly, States Parties may not refuse a request for extradition or for mutual legal assistance on the sole ground that it concerns a fiscal offence.

Article 14

None of the offences set forth in article 2 shall be regarded for the purposes of extradition or mutual legal assistance as a political offence or as an offence connected with a political offence or as an offence inspired by political motives. Accordingly, a request for extradition or for mutual legal assistance based on such an offence may not be refused on the sole ground that it concerns a political offence or an offence connected with a political offence or an offence inspired by political motives.

Article 15

Nothing in this Convention shall be interpreted as imposing an obligation to extradite or to afford mutual legal assistance, if the requested State Party has substantial grounds for believing that the request for extradition for offences set forth in article 2 or for mutual legal assistance with respect to such offences has been made for the purpose of prosecuting or punishing a person on account of that person's race, religion, nationality, ethnic origin or political opinion or that compliance with the request would cause prejudice to that person's position for any of these reasons.

Article 16

1. A person who is being detained or is serving a sentence in the territory of one State Party whose presence in another State Party is requested for purposes of identification, testimony or otherwise providing assistance in obtaining evidence for the investigation or prosecution of offences set forth in article 2 may be transferred if the following conditions are met:

(*a*) The person freely gives his or her informed consent;

(*b*) The competent authorities of both States agree, subject to such conditions as those States may deem appropriate.

2. For the purposes of the present article:

(*a*) The State to which the person is transferred shall have the authority and obligation to keep the person transferred in custody, unless otherwise requested or authorized by the State from which the person was transferred;

(*b*) The State to which the person is transferred shall without delay implement its obligation to return the person to the custody of the State from which the person was transferred as agreed beforehand, or as otherwise agreed, by the competent authorities of both States;

(*c*) The State to which the person is transferred shall not require the State from which the person was transferred to initiate extradition proceedings for the return of the person;

(*d*) The person transferred shall receive credit for service of the sentence being served in the State from which he or she was transferred for time spent in the custody of the State to which he or she was transferred.

3. Unless the State Party from which a person is to be transferred in accordance with the present article so agrees, that person, whatever his or her nationality, shall not be prosecuted or detained or subjected to any other restriction of his or her personal liberty in the territory of the State to which that person is transferred in respect of acts or convictions anterior to his or her departure from the territory of the State from which such person was transferred.

Article 17

Any person who is taken into custody or regarding whom any other measures are taken or proceedings are carried out pursuant to this Convention shall be guaranteed fair treatment, including enjoyment of all rights and guarantees in conformity with the law of the State in the territory of which that person is present and applicable provisions of international law, including international human rights law.

Article 18

1. States Parties shall cooperate in the prevention of the offences set forth in article 2 by taking all practicable measures, *inter alia*, by adapting their domestic legislation, if necessary, to prevent and counter preparations in their respective territories for the commission of those offences within or outside their territories, including:

(*a*) Measures to prohibit in their territories illegal activities of persons and organizations that knowingly encourage, instigate, organize or engage in the commission of offences set forth in article 2;

(*b*) Measures requiring financial institutions and other professions involved in financial transactions to utilize the most efficient measures available for the identification of their usual or occasional customers, as well as customers in whose interest accounts are opened, and to pay special attention to unusual or suspicious transactions and report transactions suspected of stemming from a criminal activity. For this purpose, States Parties shall consider:

(i) Adopting regulations prohibiting the opening of accounts, the holders or beneficiaries of which are unidentified or unidentifiable, and measures to ensure that such institutions verify the identity of the real owners of such transactions;

(ii) With respect to the identification of legal entities, requiring financial institutions, when necessary, to take measures to verify the legal existence and the structure of the customer by obtaining, either from a public register or from the customer or both, proof of incorporation, including information concerning the customer's name, legal form, address, directors and provisions regulating the power to bind the entity;

(iii) Adopting regulations imposing on financial institutions the obligation to report promptly to the competent authorities all complex, unusual large transactions and unusual patterns of transactions, which have no apparent economic or obviously lawful purpose, without fear of assuming criminal or civil liability for breach of any restriction on disclosure of information if they report their suspicions in good faith;

(iv) Requiring financial institutions to maintain, for at least five years, all necessary records on transactions, both domestic and international.

2. States Parties shall further cooperate in the prevention of offences set forth in article 2 by considering:

(*a*) Measures for the supervision, including, for example, the licensing, of all money-transmission agencies;

(*b*) Feasible measures to detect or monitor the physical cross-border transportation of cash and bearer negotiable instruments, subject to strict safeguards to ensure proper use of information and without impeding in any way the freedom of capital movements.

3. States Parties shall further cooperate in the prevention of the offences set forth in article 2 by exchanging accurate and verified information in accordance with their domestic law and coordinating administrative and other measures taken, as appropriate, to prevent the commission of offences set forth in article 2, in particular by:

(*a*) Establishing and maintaining channels of communication between their competent agencies and services to facilitate the secure and rapid exchange of information concerning all aspects of offences set forth in article 2;

(*b*) Cooperating with one another in conducting inquiries, with respect to the offences set forth in article 2, concerning:

(i) The identity, whereabouts and activities of persons in respect of whom reasonable suspicion exists that they are involved in such offences;

(ii) The movement of funds relating to the commission of such offences.

4. States Parties may exchange information through the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol).

Article 19

The State Party where the alleged offender is prosecuted shall, in accordance with its domestic law or applicable procedures, communicate the final outcome of the proceedings to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall transmit the information to the other States Parties.

Article 20

The States Parties shall carry out their obligations under this Convention in a manner consistent with the principles of sovereign equality and territorial integrity of States and that of non-intervention in the domestic affairs of other States.

Article 21

Nothing in this Convention shall affect other rights, obligations and responsibilities of States and individuals under international law, in particular the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations, international humanitarian law and other relevant conventions.

Article 22

Nothing in this Convention entitles a State Party to undertake in the territory of another State Party the exercise of jurisdiction or performance of functions which are exclusively reserved for the authorities of that other State Party by its domestic law.

Article 23

1. The annex may be amended by the addition of relevant treaties:

(*a*) That are open to the participation of all States;

(*b*) That have entered into force;

(*c*) That have been ratified, accepted, approved or acceded to by at least twenty-two States Parties to the present Convention.

2. After the entry into force of this Convention, any State Party may propose such an amendment. Any proposal for an amendment shall be communicated to the depositary in written form. The depositary shall notify proposals that meet the requirements of paragraph 1 to all States Parties and seek their views on whether the proposed amendment should be adopted.

3. The proposed amendment shall be deemed adopted unless one third of the States Parties object to it by a written notification not later than 180 days after its circulation.

4. The adopted amendment to the annex shall enter into force 30 days after the deposit of the twenty-second instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of such amendment for all those States Parties that have deposited such an instrument. For each State Party ratifying, accepting or approving the amendment after the deposit of the twenty-second instrument, the amendment shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after deposit by such State Party of its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval.

Article 24

1. Any dispute between two or more States Parties concerning the interpretation or application of this Convention which cannot be settled through negotiation within a reasonable time shall, at the request of one of them, be submitted to arbitration. If, within six months from the date of the request for arbitration, the parties are unable to agree on the organization of the arbitration, any one of those parties may refer the dispute to the International Court of Justice, by application, in conformity with the Statute of the Court.

2. Each State may at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance or approval of this Convention or accession thereto declare that it does not consider itself bound by paragraph 1. The other States Parties shall not be bound by paragraph 1 with respect to any State Party which has made such a reservation.

3. Any State which has made a reservation in accordance with paragraph 2 may at any time withdraw that reservation by notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Article 25

1. This Convention shall be open for signature by all States from 10 January 2000 to 31 December 2001 at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

2. This Convention is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval. The instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

3. This Convention shall be open to accession by any State. The instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Article 26

1. This Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the date of the deposit of the twenty-second

instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

2. For each State ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention after the deposit of the twenty-second instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after deposit by such State of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

Article 27

1. Any State Party may denounce this Convention by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

2. Denunciation shall take effect one year following the date on which notification is received by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Article 28

The original of this Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations who shall send certified copies thereof to all States.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Convention, opened for signature at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 10 January 2000.

ANNEX

1. Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft, done at The Hague on 16 December 1970.

2. Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, done at Montreal on 23 September 1971.

3. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 14 December 1973.

4. International Convention against the Taking of Hostages, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 17 December 1979.

5. Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, adopted at Vienna on 3 March 1980.

6. Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation, supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, done at Montreal on 24 February 1988.

7. Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation, done at Rome on 10 March 1988.

8. Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms located on the Continental Shelf, done at Rome on 10 March 1988.

9. International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 15 December 1997.

RESOLUTION 54/110

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 9 December 1999, by a recorded vote of 149 to none, with 2 abstentions,[54] on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/615)

54/110. Measures to eliminate international terrorism

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, including resolution 49/60 of 9 December 1994, by which it adopted the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, and resolutions 50/53 of 11 December 1995, 51/210 of 17 December 1996, 52/165 of 15 December 1997 and 53/108 of 8 December 1998, as well as Security Council resolution 1269 (1999) of 19 October 1999,

Recalling also the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[55]

Deeply disturbed by the persistence of terrorist acts, which have been carried out worldwide,

Stressing the need to strengthen further international cooperation between States and between international organizations and agencies, regional organizations and arrangements and the United Nations in order to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed,

Mindful of the need to enhance the role of the United Nations and the relevant specialized agencies in combating international terrorism, and of the proposals of the Secretary-General to enhance the role of the Organization in this respect,

Convinced of the importance of the consideration of measures to eliminate international terrorism by the General Assembly as the universal organ having competence to do so,

Recalling the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to resolution 49/60, wherein the General Assembly encouraged States to review urgently the scope of the existing international legal provisions on the prevention, repression and elimination of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, with the aim of ensuring that there was a comprehensive legal framework covering all aspects of the matter,

Taking note of the final communiqué of the meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in New York on 23 September 1999,[56] which reiterated the collective position of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries on terrorism and reaffirmed the previous initiative of the Twelfth Conference of

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[54] For details, see annex II.

[55] See resolution 50/6.

[56] A/54/469-S/1999/1063, annex; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fourth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1999*, document S/1999/1063.

Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998, calling for an international summit conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,[57]

Recalling its decision in resolution 53/108 to address at its fifty-fourth session the question of convening a high-level conference in 2000 under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Noting regional efforts to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, including through the elaboration of and adherence to regional conventions,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General,[58]

1. *Strongly condemns* all acts, methods and practices of terrorism as criminal and unjustifiable, wherever and by whomsoever committed;

2. *Reiterates* that criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for political purposes are in any circumstances unjustifiable, whatever the considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or other nature that may be invoked to justify them;

3. *Reiterates its call* upon all States to adopt further measures in accordance with the relevant provisions of international law, including international standards of human rights, to prevent terrorism and to strengthen international cooperation in combating terrorism and, to that end, to consider in particular the implementation of the measures set out in paragraphs 3 (*a*) to (*f*) of resolution 51/210;

4. *Also reiterates its call* upon all States, with the aim of enhancing the efficient implementation of relevant legal instruments, to intensify, as and where appropriate, the exchange of information on facts related to terrorism and, in so doing, to avoid the dissemination of inaccurate or unverified information;

5. *Reiterates its call* upon States to refrain from financing, encouraging, providing training for or otherwise supporting terrorist activities;

6. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation as well as actions by States to combat terrorism should be conducted in conformity with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and relevant international conventions;

7. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to consider, as a matter of priority, becoming parties to relevant conventions and protocols as referred to in paragraph 6 of resolution 51/210, as well as the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings,[59] and calls upon all States to enact, as appropriate, domestic legislation necessary to implement the provisions of those conventions and protocols, to ensure that the jurisdiction of their courts enables them to bring to trial the perpetrators of terrorist acts, and to cooperate with and provide support and assistance to other States and relevant international and regional organizations to that end;

8. *Reaffirms* the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism contained in the annex to resolution 49/60 and the Declaration to Supplement the 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism contained in the annex to resolution 51/210, and calls upon all States to implement them;

9. *Notes* the establishment of the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the Centre for International Crime Prevention in Vienna, and welcomes its efforts, after reviewing existing possibilities within the United Nations system, to enhance through research and technical cooperation the capabilities of the United Nations in the prevention of terrorism;

10. *Invites* States that have not yet done so to submit to the Secretary-General information on their national laws and regulations regarding the prevention and suppression of acts of international terrorism;

11. *Invites* regional intergovernmental organizations to submit to the Secretary-General information on the measures they have adopted at the regional level to eliminate international terrorism;

12. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 shall continue to elaborate a draft international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism with a view to completing the instrument, shall address means of further developing a comprehensive legal framework of conventions dealing with international terrorism, including considering the elaboration of a comprehensive convention on international terrorism, and shall address the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

13. *Decides also* that the Ad Hoc Committee shall meet from 14 to 18 February 2000, devoting appropriate time to the consideration of the outstanding issues relating to the elaboration of a draft international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism, and that it shall address the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and that the work shall continue, including beginning consideration with a view to the elaboration of a comprehensive convention on international terrorism within a comprehensive legal framework of conventions dealing with international terrorism, during the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly from 25 September to 6 October 2000, within the framework of a working group

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[57] See A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I, paras. 149-162; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-third Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1998*, document S/1998/1071.

[58] A/54/301 and Add.1.

[59] Resolution 52/164, annex.

of the Sixth Committee, and that the Ad Hoc Committee shall be convened in 2001 to continue its work;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with the necessary facilities for the performance of its work;

15. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session in the event of the completion of the draft international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism;

16. *Also requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on progress made in the implementation of its mandate;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism".

RESOLUTION 54/111

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 9 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/610)

54/111. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-first session

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-first session,[60]

Emphasizing the importance of furthering the progressive development of international law and its codification as a means of implementing the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[61]

Emphasizing also the role of the International Law Commission in the fulfilment of the objectives of the United Nations Decade of International Law,

Recognizing the desirability of referring legal and drafting questions to the Sixth Committee, including topics that might be submitted to the International Law Commission for closer examination, and of enabling the Sixth Committee and the Commission further to enhance their contribution to the progressive development of international law and its codification,

Recalling the need to keep under review those topics of international law which, given their new or renewed interest for the international community, may be suitable for the progressive development and codification of international law and therefore may be included in the future programme of work of the International Law Commission,

Welcoming the holding of the International Law Seminar, and noting with appreciation the voluntary contributions made to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Law Seminar,

Stressing the usefulness of structuring the debate on the report of the International Law Commission in the Sixth Committee in such a manner that conditions are provided for concentrated attention to each of the main topics dealt with in the report,

Wishing to enhance further the interaction between the Sixth Committee as a body of governmental representatives and the International Law Commission as a body of independent legal experts, with a view to improving the dialogue between the two organs,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-first session;[60]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for the work accomplished at its fifty-first session, in particular with respect to the topic "Jurisdictional immunities of States and their property" and the completion of the second reading of the draft articles on nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States, and notes that the Commission has completed its work on the topic "Nationality in relation to the succession of States";

3. *Draws the attention* of Governments to the importance for the International Law Commission of having their views on the various aspects involved in the topics on the agenda of the Commission, in particular on all the specific issues identified in chapter III of its report;

4. *Reiterates its invitation* to Governments to submit comments and observations in writing by 1 January 2000 on the draft articles on international liability for injurious consequences arising out of acts not prohibited by international law (prevention of transboundary damage from hazardous activities), and invites them, within the context of paragraph 3 above, to respond in writing by 1 March 2000 to the questionnaire on unilateral acts of States circulated by the Secretariat to all Governments on 30 September 1999;

5. *Also reiterates its invitation* to Governments to submit the most relevant national legislation, decisions of domestic courts and State practice relevant to diplomatic protection in order to assist the International Law Commission in its future work on the topic "Diplomatic protection";

6. *Recommends* that, taking into account the comments and observations of Governments, whether in writing or expressed orally in debates in the General Assembly, the International Law Commission should continue its work on the topics in its current programme;

7. *Takes note* of paragraph 608 of the report of the International Law Commission with regard to the procedure to be followed with respect to the topic "International liability for injurious consequences arising out of acts not prohibited by international law", and requests the Commission to resume consideration of the liability aspects of the topic as soon as the second reading of the draft articles on the prevention of transboundary damage from hazardous activities is finalized, taking into account developments in international law and comments by Governments;

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[60] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-four Session, Supplement No. 10* and corrigenda (A/54/10 and Corr.1 and 2).

[61] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

8. *Also takes note* of the consideration by the International Law Commission of its long-term programme of work,[62] and encourages the Commission to proceed with the selection of new topics for its next quinquennium corresponding to the wishes and preoccupations of States and to present possible outlines for new topics and information related thereto in order to facilitate decision thereon by the General Assembly;

9. *Welcomes with appreciation* the steps that have been taken by the International Law Commission in relation to its internal matters to enhance its efficiency and productivity, and invites the Commission to continue taking such measures, taking into consideration the discussion held by the General Assembly;

10. *Decides*, without prejudice to any future decision, that the next session of the International Law Commission shall be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 1 May to 9 June and from 10 July to 18 August 2000;

11. *Requests* the International Law Commission to implement arrangements in accordance with paragraph 639 of its report;

12. *Stresses* the desirability of enhancing dialogue between the International Law Commission and the Sixth Committee, and in this context takes note with appreciation of the comments made by the Commission in paragraphs 612 to 617 of its report;

13. *Requests* the International Law Commission to continue to pay special attention to indicating in its annual report, for each topic, any specific issues on which expressions of views by Governments, either in the Sixth Committee or in written form, would be of particular interest in providing effective guidance for the Commission in its further work;

14. *Also requests* the International Law Commission to continue the implementation of article 16, paragraph (e), and article 26, paragraphs 1 and 2, of its statute in order to further strengthen cooperation between the Commission and other bodies concerned with international law, having in mind the usefulness of such cooperation, and in that regard takes note with appreciation of comments made by the Commission in paragraphs 618 to 632 of its report;

15. *Notes* that consulting with national organizations and individual experts concerned with international law may assist Governments in considering whether to make comments and observations on drafts submitted by the International Law Commission and in formulating their comments and observations;

16. *Reaffirms* its previous decisions concerning the role of the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat and those concerning the summary records and other documentation of the International Law Commission;

17. *Notes* the inclusion of information about the work of the International Law Commission in its web site;[63]

18. *Expresses the hope* that the International Law Seminar will continue to be held in connection with the sessions of the International Law Commission and that an increasing number of participants, in particular from developing countries, will be given the opportunity to attend those seminars, and appeals to States to make urgently needed voluntary contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Law Seminar;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the International Law Seminar with adequate services, including interpretation, as required, and encourages him to continue considering ways to improve the structure and content of the Seminar;

20. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to forward to the International Law Commission, for its attention, the records of the debate on the report of the Commission at the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly, together with such written statements as delegations may circulate in conjunction with their oral statements, and to prepare and distribute a topical summary of the debate, following established practice;

21. *Requests* the Secretariat to circulate to States, as soon as possible after the conclusion of the session of the International Law Commission, chapter II of its report containing a summary of the work of that session and the draft articles adopted on either first or second reading by the Commission;

22. *Recommends* that the debate on the report of the International Law Commission at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly commence on 23 October 2000.

RESOLUTION 54/112

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 9 December 1999, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Committee (A/54/610)

54/112. Nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States

The General Assembly,

Having considered chapter IV of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-first session,[64] which contains final draft articles on nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States,

Noting that the International Law Commission decided to recommend the draft articles to the General Assembly for their adoption in the form of a declaration,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for its valuable work on nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States and to the Special Rapporteur and the Chairman of the Working Group of the Commission for their contribution to that work;

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[62] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 10* and corrigenda (A/54/10 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. X, sect. A.2.

[63] The Internet address of the International Law Commission is www.un.org/law/ilc/index.htm.

[64] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 10* and corrigenda (A/54/10 and Corr.1 and 2).

2. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session an item entitled "Nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States", with a view to the consideration of the draft articles and their adoption as a declaration at that session;

3. *Invites* Governments to submit comments and observations on the question of a convention on nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States, with a view to the General Assembly considering the elaboration of such a convention at a future session.

ANNEX I

ALLOCATION OF AGENDA ITEMS

Plenary meetings

1. Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of Uruguay (item 1).

2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation (item 2).

3. Credentials of representatives to the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly (item 3):

   (*a*) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;

   (*b*) Report of the Credentials Committee.

4. Election of the President of the General Assembly (item 4).

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees (item 5).

6. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly (item 6).

7. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations (item 7).

8. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: reports of the General Committee (item 8).

9. General debate (item 9).

10. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization (item 10).

11. Report of the Security Council (item 11).

12. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I to VI and VII (sections A to C), VIII and IX] (item 12).

13. Report of the International Court of Justice (item 13).

14. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency (item 14).

15. Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs (item 15):

    (*a*) Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council;

    (*b*) Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council;

    (*c*) Election of five members of the International Court of Justice.

16. Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections (item 16):

    (*a*) Election of twenty members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination;

    (*b*) Election of twenty-nine members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme.

17. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments (item 17):

    (g) Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences;

    (*h*) Appointment of members of the Joint Inspection Unit;

    (*i*) Appointment of the Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services.

18. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (item 18).

19. Admission of new Members to the United Nations (item 19).

20. Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance (item 20):

    (*a*) Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

    (*b*) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions;

    (*c*) Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;

    (*d*) Participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development;

    (*e*) Assistance to the Palestinian people;

    (*f*) Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan.

21. University for Peace (item 21).

22. Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal (item 22).

23. Multilingualism (item 23).

24. Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin (item 24).

25. Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie (item 25).

26. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States (item 26).

27. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (item 27).

28. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization (item 28).

29. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (item 29).

30. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (item 30).

31. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (item 31).

32. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System (item 32).

33. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba (item 33).

34. Dialogue among civilizations (item 34).

35. Assistance in mine action (item 35).

36. Bethlehem 2000 (item 36).

37. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development (item 37).

38. Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters (item 38).

39. Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies (item 39).

40. Oceans and the law of the sea (item 40):

    (*a*) Law of the sea;

    (*b*) Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks;

    (*c*) Results of the review by the Commission on Sustainable Development of the sectoral theme of "oceans and seas".

41. Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic (item 41).

42. The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (item 42).

43. The situation in the Middle East (item 43).

44. Question of Palestine (item 44).

45. Global implications of the year 2000 date conversion problem of computers (item 45).

46. Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa (item 46).

47. The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development (item 47).

48. The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti (item 48).

49. United Nations reform: measures and proposals (item 49):

    (*a*) United Nations reform: measures and proposals;

    (*b*) The Millennium Assembly of the United Nations.

50. The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (item 50).

51. Report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 (item 51).

52. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (item 52).

53. Report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (item 53).

54. Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on the aerial and naval military attack against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the present United States Administration in April 1986 (item 54).

55. Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security (item 55).

56. Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait (item 56).

57. Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations (item 57).

58. Launching of global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development (item 58).

59. Strengthening of the United Nations system (item 59).

60. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (item 60).

61. Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields (item 61).

62. Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte (item 62).

63. Question of East Timor (item 96).

64. Sustainable development and international economic cooperation (item 99):

    (*h*) Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.

65. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family (item 106).

66. Advancement of women (item 109).

67. United Nations Decade of International Law (item 154):

    (*a*) United Nations Decade of International Law.

68. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country (item 157).

69. Observer status for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources in the General Assembly (item 162).

70. Commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (item 165).

71. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (item 167).

72. Granting of observer status in the General Assembly for the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization (item 168).

73. Armed aggression against the Democratic Republic of the Congo (item 170).

74. Observer status for the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries in the General Assembly (item 171).

75. Operational activities for development (item 101):

    (*a*) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system.

76. International recognition of the Day of Vesak (item 174).

First Committee

(DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE)

1. Reduction of military budgets (item 64):

    (*a*) Reduction of military budgets;

    (*b*) Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures.

2. Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament (item 65).

3. Question of Antarctica (item 66).

4. Compliance with arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements (item 67).

5. Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification (item 68).

6. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace (item 69).

7. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zone Treaty (item 70).

8. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security (item 71).

9. Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament (item 72).

10. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East (item 73).

11. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons (item 74).

12. Prevention of an arms race in outer space (item 75).

13. General and complete disarmament (item 76):

    (*a*) Notification of nuclear tests;

    (*b*) Transparency in armaments;

    (*c*) Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

    (*d*) Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them;

    (*e*) Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes;

    (*f*) Small arms;

    (*g*) Reducing nuclear danger;

    (*h*) Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control;

    (*i*) Relationship between disarmament and development;

    (*j*) Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures;

    (*k*) Regional disarmament;

    (*l*) Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

    (*m*) Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas;

    (*n*) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction;

    (*o*) Illicit traffic in small arms;

    (*p*) Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*;

(*q*) Nuclear disarmament;

(*r*) Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: the need for a new agenda;

(*s*) Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament.

14. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly (item 77):

    (*a*) Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

    (*b*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

    (*c*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa;

    (*d*) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons;

    (*e*) United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament.

15. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session (item 78):

    (*a*) Report of the Disarmament Commission;

    (*b*) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;

    (*c*) Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters;

    (*d*) United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research.

16. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East (item 79).

17. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (item 80).

18. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region (item 81).

19. Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) (item 82).

20. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (item 83).

21. Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security (item 84).

22. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (item 85).

Special Political and Decolonization Committee
(Fourth Committee)

1. Effects of atomic radiation (item 86).

2. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space (item 87).

3. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (item 88).

4. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (item 89).

5. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects (item 90).

6. Questions relating to information (item 91).

7. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations (item 92).

8. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories (item 93).

9. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (item 94).

10. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapter VII (section D)] (item 12).

11. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories (item 95).

12. Question of East Timor (item 96).

13. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (item 18).

14. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (item 52).

Second Committee

(ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL COMMITTEE)

1. Macroeconomic policy questions (item 97):

   (*a*) High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development;

   (*b*) Financing of development, including net transfer of resources between developing and developed countries;

   (*c*) Trade and development;

   (*d*) Science and technology for development;

   (*e*) External debt crisis and development.

2. Sectoral policy questions (item 98):

   (*a*) Industrial development cooperation;

   (*b*) Business and development.

3. Sustainable development and international economic cooperation (item 99):

   (*a*) Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade;

   (*b*) Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

   (*c*) Women in development;

   (*d*) Human resources development;

(*e*) International migration and development, including the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development to address migration issues;

(*f*) Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s;

(*g*) Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership;

(*h*) Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.

4. Environment and sustainable development (item 100):

(*a*) Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21;

(*b*) International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction;

(*c*) Convention on Biological Diversity;

(*d*) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind;

(*e*) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa;

(*f*) Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

5. Operational activities for development (item 101):

(*a*) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

(*b*) Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries.

6. Training and research (item 102).

7. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources (item 103).

8. Globalization and interdependence (item 104).

9. Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006) (item 105).

10. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I to V and VII (sections A to C and F to H) and IX] (item 12).

Third Committee

(SOCIAL, HUMANITARIAN AND CULTURAL COMMITTEE)

1. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family (item 106).

2. Crime prevention and criminal justice (item 107).

3. International drug control (item 108).

4. Advancement of women (item 109).

5. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women (item 110).

6. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions (item 111).

7. Promotion and protection of the rights of children (item 112).

8. Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (item 113).

9. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination (item 114).

10. Right of peoples to self-determination (item 115).

11. Human rights questions (item 116):

    (*a*) Implementation of human rights instruments;

    (*b*) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

    (*c*) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;

    (*d*) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

    (*e*) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

12. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I, III to V, VII (sections A to C and I) and IX] (item 12).

Fifth Committee

(ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY COMMITTEE)

1. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors (item 117):

    (*a*) United Nations peacekeeping operations;

    (*b*) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;

    (*c*) Voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

2. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (item 118).

3. Programme budget for the biennium 1998–1999 (item 119).

4. Programme planning (item 120).

5. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001 (item 121).

6. Improving the financial situation of the United Nations (item 122).

7. Joint Inspection Unit (item 123).

8. Pattern of conferences (item 124).

9. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (item 125).

10. United Nations common system (item 126).

11. Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (item 127).

12. Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East (item 128):

    (*a*) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force;

    (*b*) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

13. Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission and the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola (item 129).

14. Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 687 (1991) (item 130):

    (*a*) United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission;

    (*b*) Other activities.

15. Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (item 131).

16. Financing and liquidation of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (item 132).

17. Financing of the United Nations Protection Force, the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia, the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force and the United Nations Peace Forces headquarters (item 133).

18. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Somalia II (item 134).

19. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (item 135).

20. Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (item 136).

21. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (item 137).

22. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti (item 138).

23. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (item 139).

24. Financing of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (item 140).

25. Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (item 141).

26. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (item 142).

27. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 (item 143).

28. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (item 144).

29. Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium and the Civilian Police Support Group (item 145).

30. Financing of the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force (item 146).

31. Financing of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti, the United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti and the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti (item 147).

32. Financing of the Military Observer Group of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (item 148).

33. Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic (item 149).

34. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone (item 150).

35. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations (item 151):

    (*a*) Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations;

    (*b*) Relocation of Ukraine to the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (*c*) of General Assembly resolution 43/232;

    (*c*) Relocation of South Africa to the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (*c*) of General Assembly resolution 43/232.

36. Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 48/218 B (item 163).

37. Human resources management (item 164).

38. Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (item 166).

39. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I, VII (sections B and C) and IX] (item 12).

40. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments (item 17):

    (*a*) Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

    (*b*) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions;

    (*c*) Appointment of a member of the Board of Auditors;

    (*d*) Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee;

    (*e*) Appointment of members of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal;

    (*f*) Appointment of a member of the United Nations Staff Pension Committee.

41. Financing of the United Nations Mission in East Timor (item 169).

42. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (item 172).

43. Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (item 173).

Sixth Committee

(LEGAL COMMITTEE)

1. Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property (item 152).

2. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law (item 153).

3. United Nations Decade of International Law (item 154):

    (*a*) United Nations Decade of International Law;

    (*b*) Outcome of the action dedicated to the 1999 centennial of the first International Peace Conference.

4. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-first session (item 155).

5. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-second session (item 156).

6. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country (item 157).

7. Establishment of an international criminal court (item 158).

8. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization (item 159).

9. Measures to eliminate international terrorism (item 160).

10. Review of the Statute of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal (item 161).

ANNEX II

RECORDED VOTES BY RESOLUTION

Resolution 54/21

In favour

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against

Israel, United States of America

Abstaining

Estonia, Georgia, Latvia, Micronesia (Federated States of), Morocco, Nicaragua, Senegal, Uzbekistan

Resolution 54/26

In favour

Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela, Yemen, Zambia

Against

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Abstaining

Benin, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Syrian Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam

Resolution 54/31

In favour

Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against

Turkey

Abstaining

Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela

Resolution 54/35

In favour

Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yemen

Against

None

Abstaining

United States of America

Resolution 54/37

In favour

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel

Abstaining:

Swaziland, United States of America, Uzbekistan

Resolution 54/38

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel, United States of America

Abstaining:

Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan

Resolution 54/39

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America

Abstaining:

Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan

Resolution 54/40

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America

Abstaining:

Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan

Resolution 54/41

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America

Abstaining:

Micronesia (Federated States of), Uzbekistan

Resolution 54/42

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against

Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America

Abstaining

Micronesia (Federated States of), Uzbekistan

Resolution 54/47

In favour

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against

France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining

Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uzbekistan

Resolution 54/50

In favour

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and

Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brazil, Georgia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Samoa, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan

Resolution 54/52

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

None

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Resolution 54/53

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

None

Abstaining:

Israel, United States of America

Resolution 54/54 A

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Gabon, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Albania, Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining:

Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela

Resolution 54/54 B

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Lebanon

Abstaining:

Azerbaijan, China, Cuba, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Kazakhstan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Morocco, Myanmar, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam

Resolution 54/54 D

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

None

Abstaining:

Algeria, Bhutan, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, France, India, Israel, Mauritius, Myanmar, Pakistan, Russian Federation

Resolution 54/54 F

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

None

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay

Resolution 54/54 G

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Bulgaria, Estonia, France, Hungary, India, Israel, Monaco, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Myanmar, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

Resolution 54/54 I

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, China, Georgia, India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Tajikistan, Uruguay, Uzbekistan

Resolution 54/54 K

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican

Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining

Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Brazil, China, Georgia, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

Resolution 54/54 L

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against

France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining

India, Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), Russian Federation

Resolution 54/54 M

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against

India

Abstaining

Bhutan

Resolution 54/54 O

In favour

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against

None

Abstaining

Algeria, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lebanon, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic

Resolution 54/54 P

In favour

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Chile, Georgia, Ireland, Japan, Kazakhstan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, South Africa, Sweden, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

Resolution 54/54 Q

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Finland, Georgia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Norway, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

Resolution 54/54 S

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

None

Abstaining:

France, Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Resolution 54/54 V

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yemen

Against:

None

Abstaining:

Lebanon, Russian Federation

Resolution 54/55 D

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, China, Cyprus, Georgia, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, San Marino, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

Resolution 54/57

In favour

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against

Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining

Barbados, Cameroon, Canada, India, Kenya, Marshall Islands, Norway, Singapore, Trinidad and Tobago

Resolution 54/62

In favour

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against

None

Abstaining

Belarus, China

Resolution 54/63

In favour

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

None

Abstaining:

Bhutan, India, Lebanon, Mauritius, Syrian Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania

Resolution 54/69

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel

Abstaining:

Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Resolution 54/71

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against

Israel, United States of America

Abstaining

Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of)

Resolution 54/72

In favour

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against

None

Abstaining

Israel

Resolution 54/73

In favour

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of

Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against

Israel, United States of America

Abstaining

Micronesia (Federated States of)

Resolution 54/74

In favour

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against

Israel, United States of America

Abstaining

Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of)

Resolution 54/75

In favour

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against

Israel, United States of America

Abstaining

Micronesia (Federated States of)

Resolution 54/76

In favour

Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against

Israel, United States of America

Abstaining

Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Resolution 54/77

In favour

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against

Israel, United States of America

Abstaining

Micronesia (Federated States of)

Resolution 54/78

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining:

Marshall Islands, Swaziland, Uruguay

Resolution 54/79

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel, United States of America

Abstaining:

Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Swaziland

Resolution 54/80

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel

Abstaining:

Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Swaziland, United States of America, Uruguay

Resolution 54/83

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

None

Abstaining:

France, Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Resolution 54/84

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against

Israel, United States of America

Abstaining

France, Georgia, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Resolution 54/85

In favour

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against

None

Abstaining

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan

Resolution 54/91

In favour

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Belgium, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Turkey

Resolution 54/92

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

France, Israel, Monaco

Resolution 54/110

In favour:

Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against:

None

Abstaining:

Lebanon, Syrian Arab Republic

Resolution 54/117

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yemen

Against:

None

Abstaining:

Armenia, China

Resolution 54/151

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Japan, Luxembourg, Micronesia (Federated States of), Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

Resolution 54/152

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel, United States of America

Abstaining:

Georgia

Resolution 54/164

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Fiji, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

None

Abstaining:

Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela

Resolution 54/165

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Togo, United States of America

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Yemen

Resolution 54/168

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Belarus, Brazil, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Malawi, Nicaragua, Panama, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Tajikistan

Resolution 54/169

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe

Against:

United States of America

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan, Zambia

Resolution 54/172

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Nicaragua, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

Resolution 54/173

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

None

Abstaining:

Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Myanmar, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Viet Nam

Resolution 54/175

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Canada, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Japan, Liechtenstein, Netherlands, Sweden, United States of America

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan

Resolution 54/177

In favour:

Andorra, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Against:

Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam

Abstaining:

Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Benin, Botswana, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Congo, Cyprus, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Georgia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Resolution 54/178

In favour

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against

Iran (Islamic Republic of), Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Sudan

Abstaining

Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Saint Lucia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam

Resolution 54/179

In favour

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela

Against

Angola, Burkina Faso, Chad, China, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Myanmar, Sudan, Zimbabwe

Abstaining

Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia

Resolution 54/182

In favour

Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zimbabwe

Against

Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Chad, China, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam

Abstaining

Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Nepal, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Zambia

Resolution 54/183

In favour

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against

Belarus, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Russian Federation

Abstaining

Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Grenada, Guinea, Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Panama, Peru, Saint Lucia, Singapore, Suriname, Swaziland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam

Resolution 54/184

In favour

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Belarus, Russian Federation

Abstaining:

Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, India, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mali, Mexico, Myanmar, Namibia, Saint Lucia, Singapore, Suriname, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania

Resolution 54/197

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

United States of America

Abstaining:

None

Resolution 54/200

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Germany, Marshall Islands, United States of America

Abstaining:

Andorra, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan

Resolution 54/230

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America

Abstaining:

Australia, Cameroon, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Zambia

ANNEX III

CHECKLIST OF RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
54/1	Admission of the Republic of Kiribati to membership in the United Nations	19	1st	14 September 1999	4
54/2	Admission of the Republic of Nauru to membership in the United Nations	19	1st	14 September 1999	4
54/3	Admission of the Kingdom of Tonga to membership in the United Nations	19	1st	14 September 1999	4
54/4	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	109	28th	6 October 1999	4
54/5	Observer status for the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in the General Assembly	168	31st	8 October 1999	7
54/6	Credentials of representatives to the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly				7
	Resolution A	3 (*b*)	38th	25 October 1999	7
	Resolution B	3 (*b*)	75th	9 December 1999	7
54/7	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference	29	38th	25 October 1999	7
54/8	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System	32	38th	25 October 1999	9
54/9	Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States	26	39th	26 October 1999	9
54/10	Observer status for the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries in the General Assembly	171	39th	26 October 1999	10
54/11	Thirtieth anniversary of the operations of the United Nations Population Fund	99 (*h*)	40th	27 October 1999	11
54/12	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union	27	41st	27 October 1999	11
54/13	Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors				343
	Resolution A	117 (*a*)	43rd	29 October 1999	343
	Resolution B	117	88th	23 December 1999	343
54/14	Procurement reform	118	43rd	29 October 1999	343
54/15	Development Account	119	43rd	29 October 1999	346
54/16	Joint Inspection Unit	123	43rd	29 October 1999	346

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
54/17	Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission and the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola	129	43rd	29 October 1999	347
54/18	Financing of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission	130 (*a*)	43rd	29 October 1999	348
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